



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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**The Scottish Parliament is in recess until 29 August 2021.**

## Immigration and Asylum

### Scottish Parliament Motion

**James Dornan (SNP) [S6M-00623] Jock Tamson's Bairns** – That the Parliament believes that Scotland has benefited historically, culturally, socially and economically from immigration; considers that continued immigration is needed to assist the economy to grow; believes that people who have made the decision to settle in the country are as Scottish as those who were born in Scotland, and does not recognise the description of "indigenous Scots" as being superior in any way to "new Scots".

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/votes-and-motions/votes-and-motions-search/S6M-00623>

## UK Parliament Debates

### EU Settlement Scheme

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2021-07-07/debates/08D939C0-8F36-4EB0-B46C-CC55FCF85D62/EUSettlementScheme>

### Immigration Rules

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2021-07-07/debates/8D7EE02C-679A-4245-B46A-422CF6BF4C13/ImmigrationRules>

### Delays in the Asylum System

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2021-07-07/debates/E660849B-8111-4A50-A764-9E674EEF79EB/DelaysInTheAsylumSystem>

## UK Parliament, Ministerial Statement

### Nationality and Borders Bill

**The Secretary of State for the Home Department (Priti Patel):** In March I published the new plan for immigration (NPI), setting out the overwhelming case for change to fix the broken asylum system, and deliver a system that is fair but firm. The Nationality and Borders Bill, introduced today, will deliver the most comprehensive reform of the asylum system in decades. The principle behind the Bill is simple: access to the United Kingdom's asylum system should be based on need, not on the ability to pay people smugglers.

The Bill—and the wider NPI—has three key objectives:

Make the system fairer and more effective so that we can better protect and support those in genuine need of asylum.

Deter illegal entry into the UK breaking the business model of criminal trafficking networks and saving lives.

Removing from the UK those with no right to be here.

The introduction of the Bill was preceded by a consultation on the NPI which the Government will provide a response to in due course.

To support the parliamentary scrutiny of the Bill, we are publishing a gov.uk page. This can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/the-nationality-and-borders-bill>.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2021-07-06/debates/21070641000012/NationalityAndBordersBill>

*The New Plan for Immigration, referred to above, can be read at*

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/new-plan-for-immigration/new-plan-for-immigration-policy-statement-accessible>

## UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

### Migrants

**Stephen Timms (Labour) [24882]** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many administrative reviews have been applied for in cases where Destitution Change of Conditions Applications have been rejected, in each quarter since the third quarter of 2017.

**Stephen Timms (Labour) [24883]** To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what proportion of the administrative reviews applied for, in cases where Destitution Change of Conditions Applications have been rejected, have succeeded in overturning the rejection in each quarter since the third quarter of 2017.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** The Change of Conditions Application is a free of charge application. There is no formal right to an administrative review of Change of Conditions decisions. However, a form of review was introduced as a pilot for Change of Conditions rejections in February 2020 and is ongoing.

The data relating to these reviews is not held centrally and is not currently captured in a publishable form.

Other Change of Conditions information is now part of the transparency data which can be found here: [Immigration and protection data: Q1 2021](#) The relevant data are in tabs CoC\_01 to CoC\_04.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-06-30/24882>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-06-30/24883>

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

### **Migrants**

**David Simmonds (Conservative)** [24386] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people in the UK are subject to no recourse to public funds conditions.

### **Migrants: Employment**

**David Simmonds (Conservative)** [24387] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people subject to no recourse to public funds conditions (a) are in work and (b) have previously been in work.

**Reply from Chris Philp:** The no recourse to public funds (NRPF) condition applies to millions of people, the vast majority of whom are visitors or other temporary migrants who have no need for public funds during their stay. It also applies to those without status, many of whom may not be in touch with the Home Office. We are therefore not able to accurately measure all those subject to NRPF at any one time. The Home Office's Chief Statistician wrote to the Office for Statistics Regulation last July to explain why the Home Office is not able to provide a figure for the total number of people currently in the UK to whom the NRPF condition applies. His letter can be found at:

<https://osr.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/correspondence/response-from-daniel-shaw-to-ed-humpherson-parliamentary-question-response/>

We do, however, publish quarterly immigration statistics on the number of entry clearance visas granted outside the UK, most of which will have had the NRPF condition applied. The latest figures for the year ending March 2021 can be found here:

[Entry clearance visa applications and outcomes.](#)

The immigration statistics data for in-country extensions from 2010 to year ending March 2021 can be found here: [Extensions.](#)

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-06-29/24386>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-06-29/24387>

### **Migrants: Free School Meals**

**Stephen Timms (Labour)** [25712] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to the Answer of 2 November 2020 to Question 106891 on Windrush Lessons Learned Review, with reference to the review of how immigration status and no recourse to public funds interact with free school meals and other educational entitlements, which was planned to conclude by the end of 2020, what (a) recent steps she has taken to progress that review, (b) reason that review did not conclude in accordance with that timeframe, and (c) her revised timetable is for completing that review; and if she will make a statement.

**Reply from Priti Patel:** The Department for Education is finalising its review of access to free school meals and other educational entitlements for families with no recourse to public funds. Home Office officials are supporting that work and I understand you met my Rt hon Friend, the Secretary of State for Education, earlier this year to discuss progress on the review. In the meantime, the temporary extension of eligibility to free school meals will continue until a long-term policy position has been agreed.

Current guidance regarding the extension to free school meals can be viewed here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-free-school-meals-guidance/guidance-for-the-temporary-extension-of-free-school-meals-eligibility-to-nrp-groups>  
<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-07-01/25712>

*The answer referred to above can be read at*

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2020-10-21/106891>

*The Windrush Lessons Learned Review, referred to above, can be read at*

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/874022/6.5577\\_HO\\_Windrush\\_Lessons\\_Learned\\_Review\\_WEB\\_v2.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/874022/6.5577_HO_Windrush_Lessons_Learned_Review_WEB_v2.pdf)

### **Windrush Generation: Compensation**

**Yvette Cooper (Labour)** [25728] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to the update provided to the Home Affairs Committee on 28 April 2020, how many applications for urgent and exceptional payments have been (a) received, (b) approved and (c) declined during the period 1 February 2021 to 31 May 2021.

**Reply from Priti Patel:** Details regarding the amount of applications for urgent and exceptional support made under the Windrush Compensation Scheme; can be accessed at:

<https://committees.parliament.uk/publications/5386/documents/54029/default/>

The data requested for the specific time period of 01 February 2021 to 31 May 2021 has not been published.

Information about exceptional payments is due to be released as part of transparency data.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-07-01/25728>

*Information about the Windrush Compensation Scheme, referred to above, can be read at*

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-windrush-compensation-scheme>

### **Windrush Generation: Compensation**

**Yvette Cooper (Labour)** [25729] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people have received support from the Windrush Compensation Scheme's Vulnerable Persons Team during the period 1 February 2021 to 31 May 2021; and what form of support was provided.

**Reply from Priti Patel:** Details regarding how many people received support from the Windrush Compensation Scheme's Vulnerable Persons Team, and the support provided; can be accessed at:

<https://committees.parliament.uk/publications/5386/documents/54029/default/>

The data requested for the specific time period of 01 February 2021 to 31 May 2021 has not been published.

Information about the number of people supported by the Vulnerable Persons Team is due to be released as part our commitment to publishing transparency information.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-07-01/25729>

*Information about the Windrush Compensation Scheme, referred to above, can be read at*

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-windrush-compensation-scheme>

### Overseas Visitors: EEA Nationals

**Alan Brown (SNP)** [25865] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the maximum duration is that (a) EU, (b) EEA and (c) Swiss citizens can stay within the UK without a visa over a 365 day period.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** EU, EEA and Swiss nationals are non-visa nationals. This means that they can visit the UK as a Standard visitor without needing to apply for a visa in advance of travel and can seek entry at the UK border. Standard Visitors are able to stay in the UK for up to six months.

There is no specified maximum period which an individual can spend in the UK in any period such as '6 months in 12 months' (as long as each visit does not exceed the maximum period for the visit, which is normally 6 months). However, each case is assessed on its individual merits and visitors may be refused entry if it is clear from their travel history they are seeking to remain in the UK for extended periods or making the UK their home via repeated visits.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-07-01/25865>

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

### Immigration: EU Nationals

**David Simmonds (Conservative)** [24385] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what recent estimate she has made of the number of EU citizens eligible to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme.

**David Simmonds (Conservative)** [24385] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many EU citizens have applied to the EU Settlement Scheme to date.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** The Home Office publishes data on the EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS) in the '[EU Settlement Scheme statistics](#)'.

The latest published information shows the total number of applications to the EUSS was 6.02 million up to 30 June 2021, of which 5.45 million had been concluded.

Published EUSS figures refer specifically to applications made to the EUSS and cannot be directly compared with estimates of the resident population of EU/EEA nationals in the UK. The published figures include non-EEA national family members, Irish nationals and eligible EEA nationals not resident in the UK, none of whom are usually included in estimates of the resident EU/EEA population.

Furthermore, the population estimates do not take account of people's migration intentions and will include people who have come to the UK for a range of purposes, including some who have no intention to settle in the UK.

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) published a blog on 2 July 2021, further discussing the differences and their plans for future population estimates:

[Are there really 6m EU citizens living in the UK?](#)

ONS are currently transforming their population and migration statistics to put administrative data at the core of what they do. The latest information on their work programme and longer term plans to transform migration and population statistics was published on 16 April 2021:

[Population and migration statistics system transformation – overview](#)

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-06-29/24384>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-06-29/24385>

*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

**David Simmonds (Conservative)** [24291] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if she will extend the leave to remain of EU citizens with an outstanding application to the EU Settlement Scheme so that they do not lose access to rights while they wait for a decision.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** Under the Citizens' Rights (Application Deadline and Temporary Protection) (EU Exit) Regulations 2020, those who applied before the deadline, but whose application is not decided until after it, have their existing EU law rights protected pending the outcome of their application, including any appeal.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-06-29/24391>

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**

**Rachael Maskell (Labour Co-op)** [26141] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what recent assessment she has made of the potential merits of providing people who have received EU Settled Status with physical documentation of their status.

**Rachael Maskell (Labour Co-op)** [26142] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what support is available for people who find it difficult to upload their EU Settled Status to their passport.

**Rachael Maskell (Labour Co-op)** [26143] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps she will take to support people who require proof of their settled status in response to difficulties logging onto the EU Settled Status website.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** We are developing a border and immigration system which is "digital by default", which over time means we will increasingly replace physical and paper-based products and services with accessible, easy to use online and digital services.

Individuals continue to receive written notice of their immigration status by email or letter, which they can keep for their personal records if they wish and can use when contacting the Home Office.

Should users find themselves unable to access their online immigration status because of technical issues or other problems, we have a dedicated call centre which provides telephone and email support which can assist them to use the service, and where necessary, enable individuals' status to be verified through alternative means. The call centre can also help users to update their personal details and travel documents.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-07-02/26141>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-07-02/26142>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-07-02/26143>

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

**Kate Osamor (Labour Co-op)** [25110] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if her Department will publish guidance on welfare benefit entitlement for EU nationals who have not made an application under the EU Settlement Scheme by the deadline of 30 June 2021.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** As with citizens of countries elsewhere in the world, EEA citizens who missed the 30 June deadline to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme, and do not have any other form of immigration leave, no longer have their rights protected, including access to benefits.

However, a person granted status under the EU Settlement Scheme on the basis of a late application will have the same rights from the date they are granted status, as a person who applied by the deadline. The Home Office has already published guidance on late applications to the EU Settlement Scheme at

[EU Settlement Scheme: EU, other EEA and Swiss citizens and their family members](#).

The Home Office is working closely with DWP and HMRC to ensure all those eligible for the EU Settlement Scheme apply, including contacting people to encourage them to do so. We will also expedite outstanding applications to the EUSS, including late applications where there are compelling or compassionate grounds for doing so.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-06-30/25110>

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

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

### **Social Security Benefits: EU Nationals**

**Kate Osamor (Labour Co-op)** [25109] To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, whether her Department has issued guidance to the Department of Work and Pensions on welfare benefit entitlement for individuals who have missed the EU Settlement Scheme application deadline of 30 June 2021.

**Reply from Justin Tomlinson:** Access to benefits for non-UK nationals depends on their immigration status. EEA and Swiss nationals, and their family members, resident in the UK at the end of the transition period need to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme to maintain entitlement to taxpayer funded benefits.

Those currently receiving benefits will not see their payments stop automatically from 1 July. However, it is important that anyone eligible who hasn't applied to the EUSS does so quickly to ensure that benefit payments don't stop.

Further information can be found here

<https://homeofficemedia.blog.gov.uk/2020/07/02/media-factsheet-eu-settlement-scheme/>

We are working with the Home Office and HM Revenue and Customs to identify existing benefit claimants who have yet to apply for status under the EUSS. Letters had been issued to encourage existing benefit recipients to apply to the EUSS to protect their existing rights in the UK before the deadline.

The Home Office will shortly be writing to benefit recipients who have still not applied for a status, giving a further 28 days to apply, after which the department will be notified of those recipients who have still not applied. Detailed guidance will be issued through our Advice to Decision Makers in due course

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/advice-for-decision-making-staff-guide>

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-06-30/25109>

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

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

### **Refugees: Resettlement**

**David Simmonds (Conservative)** [24383] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the timeline is for the announcement of the new resettlement scheme.

**Reply from Chris Philp:** Parliament was informed by Written Ministerial Statement on 18 March that the new global UK Resettlement Scheme (UKRS) commenced on completion of the Vulnerable Persons and Vulnerable Children's Resettlement Schemes.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-statements/detail/2021-03-18/hcws855>

Since 2015 we have resettled over 25,000 refugees, more than any other European country - through our resettlement schemes and we are committed to welcoming vulnerable refugees through resettlement in the months and years to come. As set out in the New Plan for Immigration, the Government is committed to strengthening its resettlement offer as a safe and legal route to the UK for refugees in need of protection.

### **Refugees: Children**

**Jim Shannon (DUP)** [24178] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps she is taking to protect child refugees who are brought into the UK.

**Reply from Chris Philp:** Since 2015, the UK has resettled over 25,000 refugees, around half of whom have been children.

The Government continues to welcome refugees through the global UK Resettlement Scheme (UKRS).

The majority of child refugees are resettled with their family members, although some unaccompanied child refugees are resettled where the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees judges it to be in the best interests of the child.

Local authorities and community sponsor groups provide support to resettled refugees on arrival, including safeguarding for child refugees. The Government provides a support package to local authorities to enable that support and the integration of all refugees resettled through our schemes.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-06-29/24178>

*The following three questions all received the same answer*

### **Asylum: Finance**

**Stuart C McDonald (SNP)** [24997] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what estimate she has made of the number of asylum seekers in the asylum support system who do not have (a) a new or (b) functioning payment card that would allow them to access financial support.

**Stuart C McDonald (SNP)** [24998] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what her policy is on asylum seekers in receipt of emergency payments following the transition to a new asylum support payment card.

**Stuart C McDonald (SNP)** [24999] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether she has plans to compensate charities that have provided emergency funds and food to people who have not had access to asylum support following the transition to a new payment card from May 2021.

**Reply from Kevin Foster:** Fully functioning Aspen cards, including translated instructions on how to activate them, were distributed to all service users via first class post prior to the transition date of 24 May. The majority of eligible card holders had completed this activation process by 24 May and have had access to funds via their card. However, some card holders had yet to successfully activate their card by this date. We continue to work with strategic delivery partners to ensure all cards are successfully received and activated with targeted assistance.

Emergency cash payments (ECPs) are a longstanding operational contingency provision which has been in place for several years. The position on ECPs has not changed, and they have been used to support service users who had issues with their Aspen card over the transition period.

The only element which has changed during the service transition is the value of payments (increasing from £20 to £40 per week) and the fact accommodation providers can now self-authorise Emergency Cash Payments to expedite requests. Emergency Cash Payments will continue to be provided to service users who have not yet activated their new Aspen card.

The Home Office is in regular dialogue with Charities and third sector partners about the support they provide to service users.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-06-30/24997>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-06-30/24998>

and

### **Asylum: Employment**

**Janet Daby (Labour)** [22204] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what procedures her Department has in place when reviewing asylum applications to (a) identify and (b) rectify the effect of departmental processing errors that may prevent applicants securing paid employment.

**Reply from Chris Philp:** The Home Office will consider applications for paid employment or volunteering at the point a Permission to Work (PTW) application is made. The application for PTW would instigate a review of the circumstances around the delay and assess an individual's right to work.

It is not part of the PTW decision process to routinely review the outstanding asylum protection claim to see if they have been affected by a departmental processing error that may prevent applicants securing paid employment; we are led by the information provided in the application and make the assessment based on evidence and individuals the right to work. Caseworkers dealing with a PTW application must first establish the reason for the delay and ensure that the case is not unnecessarily delayed any further.

Caseworkers follow Home Office published policy

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/handling-applications-for-permission-to-take-employment-instruction>

which reflects our obligations under Immigration Rule 360.

The Home Office does deal with a small number of cases in which an applicant's right to work has been affected by not recognising extant leave at the point of claim.

This is usually flagged by the applicant or the applicant's legal representatives once they receive the Application Registration Card and quickly rectified where appropriate.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-06-25/22204>

### **Asylum: LGBT People**

**Dan Carden (Labour)** [27292] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps her Department is taking to address the specific experiences and needs of LGBTQ+ asylum seekers and to ensure that LGBTQ+ asylum seekers are not penalised in their asylum applications in the event that they do not reveal their sexual orientation or gender identity immediately upon arrival.

**Reply from Chris Philp:** The Home Office has and continues to work closely with a diverse range of organisations specialising in asylum and human rights protection to lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and intersex people (LGBTQ+) communities, not only to facilitate the development of bespoke guidance and training products but also to further our work for LGBTQ+ within our asylum system.

We ensure that LGBTQ+ asylum seekers are signposted to relevant NGOs specialising in the support of these individuals. This is done through an information leaflet given to all asylum claimants at the point of claim which includes sections on legal advice, additional help and assistance with links to relevant legal bodies and support organisations. LGBTQ+ asylum seekers can also access support from Rainbow Migration (formerly the UK Lesbian & Gay Immigration Group), who provide both practical and emotional support for LGBTQ+ people including how to help improve their confidence and self-esteem and to reduce isolation.

The Home Office recognises that discussing persecution may often be distressing and those seeking asylum are given every opportunity to disclose information relevant to their claim before a decision is taken. Our caseworkers are very mindful that many asylum seekers come from cultures which shun any open expression or discussion of sexual orientation or gender identity. We recognise that the intimate

nature of disclosure set against the individual's cultural background may have made it difficult for some to disclose and discuss their sexuality or gender identity with officials at a port of entry.

Where it appears that a claimant has been in the UK for a prolonged period of time before either coming to immigration attention or voluntarily seeking protection, this will be explored with the claimant. Consideration will be given to any explanation offered for not seeking protection at the first available opportunity, or for not disclosing the issue of sexuality or gender identity as a claim basis at the first available opportunity. Adverse inference however will not solely be drawn from someone not having immediately identified their sexual or gender identity as a basis to their claim.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-07-05/27292>

## UK Parliament, House of Lords Oral Answers

### Afghan Interpreters: UK Relocation

**Baroness Coussins (Crossbench):** To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Baroness Goldie on 28 April (HL15285), what plans they have for considering applications for relocation to the United Kingdom from the 15 Afghan interpreters who have fled to a third country.

**Reply from the Minister of State, Ministry of Defence (Baroness Goldie):** My Lords, the Afghan relocations and assistance policy for locally engaged staff requires applicants to be in Afghanistan, because that is where they are likely to face the greatest risk. The Government keep the Immigration Rules under regular reviews, and officials from the Ministry of Defence continue to work with the Home Office to consider options to support those under threat. We will always consider exceptionally compelling and compassionate circumstances on a case-by-case basis, as demonstrated by recent relocations from third countries.

**Baroness Coussins:** My Lords, although I thank the Government for and congratulate them on the excellent programme that they are currently rolling out with the RAF to rescue the majority of our Afghan interpreters, I implore the Minister to put this last piece of the jigsaw in place and offer the same chance of relocation to the 15 who arguably need it most, having been so terrorised by Taliban threats that they fled to a third country. There is a precedent—we rescued one interpreter stranded in Greece—so will the Government immediately establish channels of communication with the 15 so that their cases can also be assessed?

**Reply from Baroness Goldie:** ... As she said, a relocation has already taken place. When I use the phrases "case-by-case basis" and "exceptionally compelling and compassionate circumstances", these are not empty words because I can tell the noble Baroness by way of reassurance that we are currently investigating a request from another third country; however, for reasons of security, I cannot provide her with more specific information. What I can say is that there is easy access—I checked this out for myself this morning by going online and on to the government website—to the scheme for those who may be in third countries. They can get advice on an online advice link and a telephone number is also provided. We are doing everything we possibly can to facilitate the provision of information.

**Lord Lancaster of Kimbolton (Conservative):** ... I am delighted that Ben Wallace, the Secretary of State for Defence, has committed not only to speeding up the repatriation process but to widening the criteria. However, our duty of care does not end when the interpreters arrive in the United Kingdom. Can my noble friend the Minister simply confirm not only that appropriate accommodation will be found for them but that this can be done without a detrimental impact on the availability for our service families?

**Reply from Baroness Goldie:** Yes, I can reassure my noble friend. The leasing of MoD houses to local authorities to assist the Afghan families is a short-term expediency until appropriate properties for longer-term resettlement can be found. From the point of view of the supply of service families accommodation to service families, there should be no effect because the houses that have been identified to local authorities for this provision are surplus to the MoD's present requirement. They are excess stock that would otherwise have been disposed of and are not required in the short term. ...

**Baroness Smith of Newnham (Liberal Democrat):** My Lords, the relocation and assistance policy came in on 1 April, and is expected to speed up alongside the withdrawal of NATO troops. In light of the deteriorating situation in Afghanistan, does the Minister believe that there will be sufficient funding, and that the policy is sufficiently wide to support all the people to whom we owe a duty—including interpreters, but also other local supporters?

**Reply from Baroness Goldie:** As the noble Baroness will be aware, the scheme under discussion will remain in force indefinitely, because we consider it our obligation to identify those who are at threat and to act appropriately. ...

**Lord Coaker (Labour):** We all welcome the Afghan relocation and assistance policy, and the Government are to be congratulated on introducing it. However, the Minister will know, as will all Members of this House, that we have a moral responsibility to those who have helped us, both those who are still in Afghanistan and those who have left. Given that we all want to do the right thing, will the criteria for the Afghan relocation and assistance policy be updated if the situation on the ground changes, either in Afghanistan or in third countries? Will the Minister look into that, so that we do the right thing by all those who have helped us?

**Reply from Baroness Goldie:** Yes, I agree in essence with the sentiment articulated by the noble Lord. We have made clear what this particular scheme is, and the criteria that surround its operation and application. We remain focused on relocating those who are most at risk, and we will review our plans should there be a rapid deterioration in the security situation in Afghanistan. ...

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2021-07-06/debates/A3B91672-6CFC-4598-A1CF-5FE9621F1E39/AfghanInterpretersUKRelocation>

*The answer referred to above can be read at*

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-04-27/hl15285>

## UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answers

### Visas: British National (Overseas)

**Lord Tyrie (Non-affiliated) [HL1413]** To ask Her Majesty's Government what plans, if any, they have to publish a forecast for the take up of the British National (Overseas) visa over (1) 12 months, (2) three years, and (3) five years.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** The Government's estimate of the number of British National (Overseas) status holders who may migrate to the UK was set out in an impact assessment published on 22 October 2020. It can be found at:

[https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukia/2020/70/pdfs/ukia\\_20200070\\_en.pdf](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukia/2020/70/pdfs/ukia_20200070_en.pdf)

We estimate there are 2.9 million BN(O) status holders eligible to move to the UK, with a further estimated 2.5 million eligible dependants. The impact assessment suggests a central range of 123,000 and 153,700 BN(O) status holders and their dependants coming in the first year and between 258,000 and 322,400 over five years. The estimates are dependent on a range of factors and inherently uncertain. The number of applications to the BN(O) route are published as part of the Quarterly

Migration Statistics and as of 31 March, approximately 34,300 BN(O) status holders and their family members had applied for the route since it opened in January.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-06-24/hl1413>

### **Health Services: EU Nationals**

**The Lord Bishop of Durham** [HL1519] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether EU nationals living in the UK before 31 December 2020 and who go on to be granted settled status under the EU Settlement Scheme will be liable for chargeable healthcare as set out in NHS Charging Regulations guidance or whether they are entitled to free healthcare.

**Reply from Lord Bethell:** Citizens of a European Union country, Iceland, Norway, Liechtenstein and Switzerland and their family members who were lawfully residing in the United Kingdom by 31 December 2020 will keep their right to healthcare on the same basis as UK residents, as long as they meet the ordinary residence test. From 1 July 2021, they must have been granted settled or pre-settled status under the EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS). These rights will be subject to any future domestic policy changes which apply to UK nationals.

An individual that has made an application to the EUSS will be considered non-chargeable from the date of their application until an outcome is determined by the Home Office. An individual who is eligible to apply to the EUSS but who has not submitted an application by 30 June 2021 will be chargeable. If they receive and pay for relevant services and then later make a late application which is granted, they will not be refunded for the earlier treatment.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-06-29/hl1519>

*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*

### **Undocumented Migrants: Boats**

**Lord Campbell-Savours (Labour)** [HL1297] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they have made, or intend to make, representations to the government of France on the enforcement of regulations applicable to France on the use of small boats departing the coast of France and entering British waters.

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

**Lord Campbell-Savours (Labour)** [HL1296] To ask Her Majesty's Government when they expect the Home Office will respond to former coxswain of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution Charles Sharrod's letter regarding the equipment used by migrants during Channel crossings.

**Lord Campbell-Savours (Labour)** [HL1298] To ask Her Majesty's Government what representations they are making to the French authorities on the need to take measures to ensure the safety and licences of boats to carry persons across the English Channel.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** The Home Office did reply to Mr Sharrod's letters of 13 August 2020 and 20 October 2020, which was raised with the Home Office by a member in another place.

The Home Office previously engaged with the French on this issue of the applicability of French maritime regulation to migrant vessels and will continue to do so. However, any decision on when, where and how to apply French law in this area must be a matter for the French, in their jurisdiction. The Home Office is aware of France's obligations under the Migrant Smuggling Protocol to prevent illegal migration.

Our New Plan for Immigration and the legislation to implement it will bring root and branch reform to the asylum system. We will take tougher action against anyone who facilitates illegal entry, such as by piloting a small boat. We plan to increase the maximum sentence for people smuggling to life imprisonment.

Border Force will be granted additional powers to stop illegal migration, including the ability to stop and redirect vessels at sea. These reforms will break the business model of criminal trafficking networks. They will deter illegal entry into this country and make it unviable.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-06-22/hl1297>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-06-22/hl1296>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-06-22/hl1298>

*The New Plan for Immigration, referred to above, can be read at*

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/new-plan-for-immigration/new-plan-for-immigration-policy-statement-accessible>

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

**Lord Campbell-Savours (Labour)** [HL1338] To ask Her Majesty's Government what steps they intend to take following the correspondence on the use of non-compliant equipment during Channel crossings sent to the Home Office by Charles Sharrod.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** The Home Office previously engaged with the French on this issue of the applicability of French maritime regulation to migrant vessels and will continue to do so. However, any decision on when, where and how to apply French law in this area must be a matter for the French, in their jurisdiction.

Our New Plan for Immigration and the legislation to implement it will bring root and branch reform to the asylum system. We will take tougher action against anyone who facilitates illegal entry, such as by piloting a small boat. We plan to increase the maximum sentence for people smuggling to life imprisonment.

Border Force will be granted additional powers to stop illegal migration, including the ability to stop and redirect vessels at sea. These reforms will break the business model of criminal trafficking networks. They will deter illegal entry into this country and make it unviable.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-06-23/hl1338>

*The New Plan for Immigration, referred to above, can be read at*

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/new-plan-for-immigration/new-plan-for-immigration-policy-statement-accessible>

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

### **Asylum: Finance**

**Lord Roberts of Llandudno (Liberal Democrat)** [HL1263] To ask Her Majesty's Government what progress they have made with resolving issues with the Aspen Card.

**Lord Roberts of Llandudno (Liberal Democrat)** [HL1264] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many asylum seekers were unable to receive their benefits due to recent issues with the Aspen Card.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** Fully functioning and tested Aspen cards have been distributed to all service users. The vast majority have activated it and have been using it successfully since the service went live on Monday 24th May 2021.

Where replacement cards have been requested, they are being actioned swiftly and are being dispatched to service users accordingly.

Those experiencing issues with their Aspen card were, and still are, entitled to Emergency Cash Payments (ECPs) if in need. Due to this, all support-entitled asylum seekers were able to receive their benefits, either through an Aspen card or cash payments.

The vast majority of service users have now received and activated their new Aspen card since the service went live on Monday 24th May 2021. These cards are working and being used successfully to make purchases or withdraw funds (dependent on asylum seeker support type).

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-06-21/hl1263>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-06-21/hl1264>

### **Asylum: Finance**

**Lord Roberts of Llandudno (Liberal Democrat)** [HL1265] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many asylum seekers are currently dependent on support from the UK Government.

**Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford:** The latest published Immigration Statistics detail the number of asylum seekers supported by the UK Government. These statistics are published on a quarterly basis, with the latest information published 27 May 2021 and can be found at: (please see attached table)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/asylum-and-resettlement-datasets#asylum-support>

[Asylum and Resettlement Data Sets](#)

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-06-21/hl1265>

## **Press Releases**

### **Landmark Borders Bill to enter Parliament**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/landmark-borders-bill-to-enter-parliament>

### **Hong Kong visa scheme must include vulnerable young people and integration support**

<https://committees.parliament.uk/committee/83/home-affairs-committee/news/156368/hong-kong-visa-scheme-must-include-vulnerable-young-people-and-integration-support-home-affairs-committee/>

### **Priti Patel signs historic removals agreement with Albania**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/priti-patel-signs-historic-removals-agreement-with-albania>

### **Crown Prosecution Service publishes updated guidance for handling of illegal entry cases via small boats**

<https://www.cps.gov.uk/cps/news/cps-publishes-updated-guidance-handling-illegal-entry-cases-small-boats>

## **New Publications**

### **The UK's offer of visa and settlement routes for residents of Hong Kong**

<https://committees.parliament.uk/publications/6564/documents/71253/default/>

### **Welcome: updated guide for Hong Kong British National (Overseas) visa holders in the UK**

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/welcome-a-guide-for-hong-kong-british-national-overseas-visa-holders-in-the-uk>

### **Legal Guidance (England): Immigration: Organised Facilitation – Vehicles and Boats**

<https://www.cps.gov.uk/legal-guidance/immigration-organised-facilitation-vehicles-and-boats>

## **High Court judgement: AA (Sudan) v Secretary of State for the Home Department**

*The High Court has ordered the Home Secretary to bring back an asylum seeker from France after he was deported as a result of a secret policy that failed to identify potential trafficking victims.*

<https://www.bailii.org/ew/cases/EWHC/Admin/2021/1869.html>

## **News**

### **Do Priti Patel's immigration reforms apply to Scotland and what do they mean?**

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/19426314.priti-patels-immigration-reforms-apply-scotland-mean/>

### **Patel's anti refugee bill**

<https://www.paih.org/response-to-publication-of-new-borders-bill/>

### **Why 6m settlement applications doesn't mean 6m EU citizens live in the UK**

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2021/jul/05/why-6m-settlement-applications-doesnt-mean-6m-eu-citizens-live-in-the-uk>

### **UK citizenship fee for Irish in UK 'indefensible'**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-northern-ireland-57738240>

### **Human traffickers 'will target' EU citizens who missed UK settlement deadline**

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/crime/human-traffickers-will-target-eu-citizens-who-missed-uk-settlement-deadline-3294664>

### **Illegal migrants to escape prosecution as CPS targets smugglers**

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2021/07/08/illegal-migrants-escape-prosecution-cps-targets-smugglers/>

### **Migrants who steer dinghies across English Channel to claim asylum will no longer be prosecuted**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/migrants-english-channel-crossing-asylum-b1880421.html>

### **CPS blows hole in Priti Patel's asylum seeker bill**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/cps-blows-hole-in-priti-patels-asylum-seeker-bill-8lggcmj5b>

### **'Dark day' as Patel presents new immigration laws to force boats back from UK waters**

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/politics/19423639.dark-day-patel-presents-new-immigration-laws-force-boats-back-uk-waters/>

### **UK seeks new powers to curb cross-Channel migrant arrivals**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk-seeks-new-powers-to-curb-crosschannel-migrant-arrivals-parliament-english-channel-london-priti-patel-australia-b1879183.html>

### **Priti Patel to withhold visas from countries that do not take back illegal migrants**

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2021/07/06/priti-patel-withhold-visas-countries-do-not-take-back-illegal/>

**SNP condemn ‘dark day’ as Priti Patel presents plans to let Border Force turn away migrant boats at sea**

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/snp-condemn-dark-day-as-priti-patel-presents-plans-to-let-border-force-turn-away-migrant-boats-at-sea-3298544>

**Home Office plans to use ‘pushbacks’ in Channel as part of asylum overhaul**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/channel-pushbacks-asylum-seekers-home-office-priti-patel-b1878961.html>

**New laws strengthen Border Force powers to detain Channel migrants**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/new-laws-strengthen-border-force-powers-to-detain-channel-migrants-2rwbvxxph>

**Border Force to get new powers in fight against people smuggling**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/border-force-to-get-new-powers-in-fight-against-people-smuggling-r07brzxwv>

**Plans to ‘fix the broken asylum system’ won’t help the shocking backlog of cases**

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2021/jul/06/fix-broken-asylum-system-shocking-backlog-cases>

**Priti Patel’s asylum overhaul plans ‘almost neo-colonial’, warns UN**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/priti-patel-asylum-seekers-unhcr-b1880472.html>

**Judge tells Priti Patel to bring asylum seeker back to UK**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2021/jul/06/asylum-seeker-removed-by-priti-patel-must-be-brought-back-to-uk>

**You have 14 days to bring back deported asylum seeker, judge tells Priti Patel**

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2021/07/06/asylum-seeker-deported-priti-patel-should-brought-back-uk-judge/>

**UK should create asylum fast-track for Uyghurs, say MPs**

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2021/07/07/uk-should-create-asylum-fast-track-uyghurs-say-mps/>

**Border Force to get powers to forcibly detain migrants at sea**

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2021/07/06/border-force-get-powers-forcibly-detain-migrants-sea/>

**How the ‘landmark’ Domestic Abuse Bill is failing refugees and migrant women**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/domestic-abuse-bill-refugees-migrants-b1879038.html>

**MSPs call for teenage orphan’s grandmother to be granted permanent UK residency**

<https://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/news-and-events/news/2021/articles/MSPs-call-for-teenage-orphans-grandmother-to-be-granted-permanent-UK-residency>

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# Community Relations

## New Publication

**Fostering Good Relations in Scotland: Developing Community Cohesion Through Public Policy**

[https://864a82af-f028-4baf-a094-](https://864a82af-f028-4baf-a094-46facc9205ca.filesusr.com/ugd/b0353f_ec32d63f92d541eb91bbc7260586d689.pdf)

[46facc9205ca.filesusr.com/ugd/b0353f\\_ec32d63f92d541eb91bbc7260586d689.pdf](https://864a82af-f028-4baf-a094-46facc9205ca.filesusr.com/ugd/b0353f_ec32d63f92d541eb91bbc7260586d689.pdf)

## News

**Photographer's shopping centre exhibition shows the authentic face of black Britain**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/entertainment-arts-57733386>

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# Equality

## UK Parliament, House of Commons Oral Answers

### **Employment Gap: Black, Asian and Ethnic Minority People**

**Rupa Huq (Labour):** What steps [is the Minister] taking with the Chancellor of the Exchequer to reduce the employment gap for Black, Asian and ethnic minority people. (902454)

**Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Work and Pensions (Guy Opperman):** The Government are committed to supporting people from all backgrounds to move into work. Clearly, £2 billion has been spent on kickstart. There are 13,000 extra job coaches, and the job entry targeted support scheme is also being rolled out. For black, Asian and minority ethnic claimants specifically, we are taking action in 20 local authority areas with high populations of ethnic minority people.

**Rupa Huq:** With the Office for National Statistics finding that in coronavirus, black and minority ethnic people are less likely to be in management positions, more likely to be unemployed and more likely to earn less, confirming the Government's own McGregor [*Inaudible.*] report, when will the Government implement its 26 recommendations? ...

**Reply from Guy Opperman:** I am happy to write to the hon. Lady through the Department when she gives me a more detailed version. I can just answer that we have 500 kickstart jobs per day, and from 20 locations—from Bradford to Barnet, Glasgow to Leicester, and Manchester to her own Ealing community—jobcentres are specifically helping BAME people.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2021-07-07/debates/89E0C4BE-AFE4-4C44-9C85-4E010E60D87F/EmploymentGapBlackAsianAndEthnicMinorityPeople>

### **BAME Students**

**Toby Perkins (Labour):** What discussions [has the Minister] had with the Secretary of State for Education on the comparative performance of BAME students in (a) further and higher education and (b) statutory education. (902455)

**Reply from the Minister for Universities (Michelle Donelan):** Equality of opportunity for talented young people across the country is one of the Government's

highest priorities. We are focused on giving people, whatever their background, ethnicity or circumstances, the high-quality education and skills that they deserve to succeed.

**Toby Perkins:** I am very pleased to hear that, but the reality in terms of the results is that those policies are not working. Most black and ethnic minority groups improve educational attainment relative to white students up to the age of 16, but from the age of 16 there is a drop off in every single group. Whether it be Chinese, who are the highest-performing, or the lowest-performing groups, all of them do less well relative to white students after the age of 16. While I recognise and welcome the Government's rhetoric, what actual policies are there to do something about that alarming decline?

**Reply from Michelle Donelan:** We recognise that raising educational standards is absolutely key to levelling up opportunity, providing £14 billion in over three years, the biggest uplift to school funding in a decade, investing it in early years education and targeting more than £3 billion in recovery funding. That is why, compared with 2009-10, the proportion achieving A-levels and equivalent improved across all ethnic groups, with the largest improvement in the black and black British ethnic group.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2021-07-07/debates/006C3856-FE32-41D2-8C3B-1D8D7A95A92E/BAMEStudents>

## UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

### Commission on Race and Ethnic Disparities

**Ruth Jones (Labour)** [23324] To ask the Minister for Women and Equalities, what recent assessment she has made of the accuracy of the data and evidence used in the March 2021 report of the Commission on Race and Ethnic Disparities.

**Reply from Kemi Badenoch:** The independent Commission on Race and Ethnic Disparities took an evidence-led approach, using quantitative data and qualitative research drawn from a number of sources which are referenced throughout the document. This includes statistical datasets derived from the Race Disparity Unit's 'Ethnicity Facts and Figures' website, other Government sources and a range of already published analysis from within and outside Government.

The Government is currently considering the Commission's report and the evidence it considered in shaping its recommendations, and we will respond later in the summer.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-06-28/23324>

*The report referred to above can be read at*

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/974507/20210331 - CRED Report - FINAL - Web Accessible.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/974507/20210331_-_CRED_Report_-_FINAL_-_Web_Accessible.pdf)

*The Ethnicity Facts and Figures website, referred to above, can be accessed at*

<https://www.ethnicity-facts-figures.service.gov.uk/>

### Maternal Mortality: Ethnic Groups

**Catherine McKinnell (Labour)** [24176] To ask the Minister for Women and Equalities, what steps the Race Disparity Unit has taken to support the Department of Health and Social Care in reducing maternal mortality rates among black women.

**Reply from Kemi Badenoch:** The government is committed to understanding and addressing the ethnic disparities in maternal mortality rates. Maternal deaths are fortunately rare and overall women's experiences of maternity care are positive, but it remains important we encourage every expectant mother to engage with NHS maternity services so they get the support they are entitled to.

I have been supporting the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) in this area since last summer. This includes co-hosting a roundtable discussion on maternal mortality rates for ethnic minority women in September 2020, which identified the need for more intelligent use of data to target action.

Following this, officials in the Race Disparity Unit have been working with DHSC colleagues to understand how data can be disaggregated and flow more easily among NHS agencies, and research bodies. They have also been supporting DHSC officials on initiatives such as the new £7.6m Health and Wellbeing Fund that will support 19 projects to reduce health inequalities among new mothers and babies.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-06-29/24176>

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## Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

### UK Parliament, House of Commons Oral Answer

#### **Voter ID: Gypsy, Roma and Traveller people**

**Kate Osamor (Labour Co-op)** [902361] With many lacking ID, the Government's voter ID plans are set to systematically exclude Gypsy, Roma and Traveller people. Why are Ministers, instead of working to improve accessibility, putting their energy into creating barriers to voting for this already marginalised community?

**Reply from Michael Gove:** The hon. Lady raises an important point. There is much that we need to do to ensure the more effective inclusion in civic life of Gypsy, Roma and Traveller individuals. First, we must start with making sure that they receive a higher quality of education than is currently the case. Gypsy, Roma and Traveller children are among those with the worst educational outcomes and we need to address that in order to make sure that they play their full part in public life. But there is absolutely no evidence that the requirement for voter ID will do anything to discriminate against Gypsy, Roma and Traveller individuals.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2021-07-08/debates/E5EA1B18-47B6-47AD-BE07-F60462142697/TopicalQuestions#contribution-A499A7FD-8762-41D1-BA6D-53B77AD82734>

### UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

#### **Administration of Justice: Racial Discrimination**

**Lyn Brown (Labour)** [24938] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, if he will make an assessment of the implications for his policies of the findings of the report Worst-Case Scenario: How Racism in the Criminal Justice System Harms Women's Chances of Finding Work, published by Working Chance on 29 June 2021.

**Lyn Brown (Labour)** [24939] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, with reference to the report Worst-Case Scenario: How Racism in the Criminal Justice System Harms Women's Chances of Finding Work, published by Working Chance on 29 June 2021, what assessment he has made of the potential merits of commissioning an independent review that focuses specifically on disparities in the treatment of and outcomes for racially minoritised women in the criminal justice system.

**Reply from Alex Chalk:** In the Female Offender Strategy, we committed to looking at how the of distinct needs minority ethnic and non-British national women in the

criminal justice system can be addressed. This includes:

- establishing the Female Offender Minority Ethnic Working Group (FOME) to identify ways of improving outcomes for ethnic minority and non-British national women;
- taking forward findings from user centred research on reducing barriers these women face in understanding the legal processes they experience from arrest to pre-sentencing;
- developing cultural awareness training for staff that work with women that will look at the impacts of culture, faith and sustaining family relationships.

Two updates published since the Government response to the Lammy Review have described the wide range of activity taking place to address race disparity in the criminal justice system and we are now considering the findings and recommendations of the independent Commission on Race and Ethnic Disparities, as part of the Government's response.

We will study the conclusions of the report *Worse-Case Scenario* and officials from the Ministry of Justice will meet with the authors.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-06-30/24938>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-06-30/24939>

*The report referred to above can be read at*

<https://workingchance.ams3.cdn.digitaloceanspaces.com/media/documents/Worst-Case Scenario - Working Chance 2021.pdf>

*The review referred to above can be read at*

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/643001/lammy-review-final-report.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/643001/lammy-review-final-report.pdf)

*The recommendations referred to above can be read at*

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-report-of-the-commission-on-race-and-ethnic-disparities/summary-of-recommendations>

### **Football: Racial Discrimination**

**Mark Hendrick (Labour Co-op) [24095]** To ask the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, what steps his Department is taking to promote anti-racism in football.

**Reply from Nigel Huddleston:** The Government is clear that racism has no place in football, sport, or society at large. The sport and physical activity strategy 'Sporting Future: A New Strategy for an Active Nation' has diversity and inclusion at its heart.

The Government continues to liaise closely and regularly with all the football authorities about their work to tackle discrimination. This includes actions targeted at and around football grounds, such as improving reporting systems, providing better training and support for referees and stewards, and improving the quality of CCTV around stadia.

We also welcomed the launch of The FA's 'Football Leadership Diversity Code' last year which is a step in the right direction to ensure English football better represents our modern and diverse society, on and off the pitch.

In January, the Government convened a roundtable with footballers, alongside the Chair of The FA's Inclusion Advisory Board and the Professional Footballers' Association, to discuss social media abuse and the upcoming Online Safety Bill.

There is still progress to be made and the Government will continue to press the football authorities to build on their work to date to tackle discrimination.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-06-29/24095>

*The Strategy referred to above can be read at*

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/486622/Sporting\\_Future\\_ACCESSIBLE.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/486622/Sporting_Future_ACCESSIBLE.pdf)

The Diversity Code referred to above can be read at  
<https://www.thefa.com/-/media/thefacom-new/files/rules-and-regulations/football-leadership-diversity-code/football-leadership-diversity-code-summary-october-2020.ashx>

## New Publications

**Encouraging hate crime reporting: The role of law enforcement and other authorities Report**

[https://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra\\_uploads/fra-2021-hate-crime-reporting\\_en.pdf](https://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra_uploads/fra-2021-hate-crime-reporting_en.pdf)

**Infographic**

<https://fra.europa.eu/en/publications-and-resources/infographics/hate-crime-reporting-infographic>

**Employment Tribunal Judgement: Mrs M Cunnington v Sainsbury's Supermarkets Ltd**

*The Employment Tribunal decided that Mrs Cunnington's dismissal was unfair after she had questioned whether a toy sold in the shop might be offensive on racial grounds.*

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/60dda661e90e07717b84dc75/Mrs\\_M\\_Cunnington\\_v\\_Sainsbury\\_s\\_Supermarkets\\_Ltd\\_-\\_1309682\\_2020\\_-\\_Reserved.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/60dda661e90e07717b84dc75/Mrs_M_Cunnington_v_Sainsbury_s_Supermarkets_Ltd_-_1309682_2020_-_Reserved.pdf)

## News

**New hate crime bill to cost more than £1m to implement**

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/new-hate-crime-bill-to-cost-more-than-ps1m-to-implement-3302650>

**Bill for enacting new hate crime laws will top £1m**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/bill-for-enacting-new-hate-crime-laws-will-top-1m-zwr87fxn9>

**How to combat racism in the criminal justice system**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/how-to-combat-racism-in-the-criminal-justice-system-j9l3sm7r8>

**Man sentenced over abusive Humza Yousaf tweet after Paris attacks**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-south-scotland-57720176>

**Man who sent abusive tweet to Humza Yousaf following Paris attacks is sentenced**

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/politics/19420720.man-sent-abusive-tweet-humza-yousaf-following-paris-attacks-sentenced/>

**Liverpool MP accuses Met Police of racial profiling**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-merseyside-57765013>

**Labour MP Kim Johnson accuses Met of racism after being stopped in London**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2021/jul/06/labour-mp-kim-johnson-accuses-met-of-racism-after-being-stopped-in-london>

**Labour MP Kim Johnson accuses Met Police of ‘racial profiling’ after she and family stopped in central London**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/kim-johnson-racism-met-police-b1878795.html>

**Labour lifts Trevor Phillips’ suspension for alleged Islamophobia**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2021/jul/06/labour-lifts-trevor-phillips-suspension-for-alleged-islamophobia>

**C of E rejects call to appoint racial justice officers in every diocese**

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2021/jul/09/c-of-e-rejects-call-appoint-racial-justice-officers-every-diocese>

**Archbishops U-turn on controversial race policy in bid to cut costs**

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2021/07/09/archbishops-u-turn-controversial-race-policy-bid-cut-costs/>

**Church of England rejects plan for racial justice officers over cost concerns**

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/church-of-england-rejects-plan-for-racial-justice-officers-over-cost-concerns-930lb6b2l>

**Jewish man abused twice in an hour on London transport network**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-london-57705786>

**‘Torrent of abuse’: Jewish man targeted twice in an hour in London**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2021/jul/05/torrent-of-abuse-jewish-man-targeted-twice-in-an-hour-in-london>

**‘Torrent of anti-Semitic abuse’ of man filmed at Tube station in central London**

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2021/07/05/torrent-anti-semitic-abuse-man-filmed-tube-station-central-london/>

**Race censorship row after city teachers bid to dump classics**

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/politics/19419227.race-censorship-row-city-teachers-bid-dump-classics/>

**‘Keep it, teach it, explain it’: Sir Geoff Palmer blasts top school’s decision to ditch To Kill A Mockingbird over ‘dated’ depiction of race**

<https://www.scotsman.com/education/keep-it-teach-it-explain-it-sir-geoff-palmer-blasts-top-schools-decision-to-ditch-to-kill-a-mockingbird-over-dated-depiction-of-race-3300041>

**Banning books is always a dangerous road to go down**

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/politics/19429511.alan-simpson-banning-books-always-dangerous-road-go/>

**School cancels To Kill a Mockingbird over ‘white saviour’ narrative**

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2021/07/05/school-cancels-kill-mockingbird-white-saviour-narrative/>

**Edinburgh school cancels To Kill a Mockingbird as book ‘promotes white saviour narrative**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/education/education-news/edinburgh-school-to-kill-a-mockingbird-b1878806.html>

## Other Scottish Parliament and Government

### Scottish Parliament Written Answer

#### **Marriage: Minimum Legal Age**

**Monica Lennon (Labour)** [S6W-00899] To ask the Scottish Government whether it plans to change the law to raise the minimum legal marriage age to 18.

**Reply from Ash Denham:** The Scottish Government is aware that issues are being raised on the minimum age to enter a marriage or civil partnership and that a Private Member's Bill has been lodged at Westminster to increase the minimum age in England and Wales: [Marriage and Civil Partnership \(Minimum Age\) Bill](#) The Scottish Government will obtain more information on this issue and discuss the minimum age with key stakeholders. Before any steps were taken to raise the minimum age for entering a marriage or civil partnership in Scotland, there would need to be a full public consultation. If the member has any points she would like to discuss on the minimum age, I would be happy to meet her.

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/written-questions-and-answers/question?ref=S6W-00899>

## Other UK Parliament and Government

### UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

*The following two questions both received the same answer*

#### **Meat: Labelling**

**Andrea Jenkyns (Conservative)** [24280] To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, what steps his Department has taken to ensure that labels on meat products state the method by which the animal was killed.

#### **Meat: School Meals**

**Andrea Jenkyns (Conservative)** [24281] To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, what steps his Department has taken to ensure that parents whose children attend schools are given information in relation to the method by which meat in school meals is slaughtered.

**Reply from Victoria Prentis:** The Government expects the industry, whether food producer or food outlet, to provide consumers with all the information they need to make informed choices about the food they eat. We plan to consult later this year on what can be done through labelling to promote high standards of animal welfare across the UK market. A review into food labelling presents an opportunity to examine this whilst also addressing some other consumer concerns, such as method of slaughter labelling.

The Government sets out required minimum standards for school food in the School Food Standards to ensure that children are served healthy, nutritious meals at school. The standards do not specify food requirements in terms of cultural and

religious needs. Head teachers, governors and their caterers are best placed to make decisions about their school food policies. We expect schools to act reasonably providing choices that take account of cultural, religious and special dietary needs and to work with parents in making appropriate arrangements. In particular, schools should consult with parents when making changes to school food provision and ensure parents have access to information on the food provided. If parents are not happy with the food provided by the school they can take it up with the school and consider using the schools complaints policy.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-06-29/24280>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-06-29/24281>

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## **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**

<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/>

## **UK Parliament, House of Commons Oral Answers**

### **Covid-19 Vaccine: Ethnic Minority Communities**

**Felicity Buchan (Conservative):** What steps [are] the Government taking to encourage

covid-19 vaccine take-up among ethnic minority communities. (902450)

**Duncan Baker (Conservative):** What recent steps the Government have taken to increase covid-19 vaccine uptake among ethnic minority communities. (902458)

**Reply from the Minister of Equalities (Kemi Badenoch):** My third quarterly report to the Prime Minister on covid disparities summarises the unprecedented measures taken to promote vaccine uptake among ethnic minorities. This work includes establishing vaccination centres at around 50 different religious venues, with many more acting as pop-up sites, and, more recently, an NHS partnership with the Caribbean & African Health Network, which co-produced a toolkit to increase vaccine confidence and uptake. Thanks to such initiatives we saw an increase in both positive vaccine sentiment and vaccine uptake across all ethnic groups over the last quarter.

**Felicity Buchan:** On Friday, I was delighted to visit the Al-Manaar mosque in North Kensington, which has administered more than 750 vaccines in pop-up clinics and done vaccine information sessions in English, Arabic and Somali. Does my hon. Friend agree that that is an excellent model for encouraging vaccination in our diverse communities?

**Reply from Kemi Badenoch:** I do agree. I thank my hon. Friend for her engagement on this issue and for so effectively representing a very diverse constituency and its complex needs. I pay tribute to religious leaders in Kensington and everywhere else who have played such an important role in encouraging their congregations to be vaccinated. Initiatives such as the one that my hon. Friend mentioned and the NHS's plan for Ramadan, which includes the use of twilight jabbing, all help to build trust, increase vaccine confidence and tackle misinformation.

**Duncan Baker:** From speaking to care home operators in my constituency, I know that there is concern among ethnic minority groups, and particularly women, about their fertility chances being affected by their taking up the vaccine. What reassurances can my hon. Friend give to those ladies that their fertility will not be affected, and that it is entirely safe to take up the vaccine?

**Reply from Kemi Badenoch:** I should start by reiterating that the covid-19 vaccines are safe and there is no evidence that they affect fertility. I recognise that there is much information about the vaccines, as my hon. Friend describes. We are working with Professor Jacqueline Dunkley-Bent, the Chief Midwifery Officer in England, and others such as Media Medics, Dr Hazel Wallace and Dr Philippa Kaye, to encourage women to be vaccinated.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2021-07-07/debates/2389D4F8-9E76-4625-83FE-D8382BAB6D92/Covid-19VaccineEthnicMinorityCommunities>

*The report referred to above can be read at*

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/third-quarterly-report-on-progress-to-address-covid-19-health-inequalities/third-quarterly-report-on-progress-to-address-covid-19-health-inequalities>

## Scottish Government Press Release

**Mobile vaccination timetable extended**

<https://www.gov.scot/news/mobile-vaccination-timetable-extended/>

## Scottish Government Publications

**Coronavirus (COVID-19): daily data for Scotland**

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

### **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 Thursday 8 July 2021**

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-update-first-ministers-speech-thursday-8-july-2021/>

## **UK Government Press Releases**

### **Prime Minister sets out plan to ease restrictions at step 4**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/prime-minister-sets-out-plan-to-ease-restrictions-at-step-4>

### **Self-isolation to be eased for fully vaccinated adults in step 4**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/self-isolation-to-be-eased-for-fully-vaccinated-adults-in-step-4>

### **The George Cross awarded to the National Health Services of the United Kingdom**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/the-george-cross-awarded-to-the-national-health-services-of-the-united-kingdom>

### **Civilian Gallantry: George Cross for the National Health Services of the United Kingdom**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/civilian-gallantry-george-cross-for-the-national-health-services-of-the-united-kingdom>

### **More than 80 million vaccines administered across the UK**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/more-than-80-million-vaccines-administered-across-the-uk>

### **COVID-19 vaccines highly effective in most people in clinical risk groups**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/covid-19-vaccines-highly-effective-in-most-people-in-clinical-risk-groups>

## **UK Government Publications**

### **The R value and growth rate**

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/the-r-value-and-growth-rate>

### **COVID-19 Response: Summer 2021 (Roadmap)**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-response-summer-2021-roadmap/covid-19-response-summer-2021>

### **Independent report: REACT-1 study of coronavirus transmission: May 2021 final results**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/react-1-study-of-coronavirus-transmission-june-2021-final-results/react-1-study-of-coronavirus-transmission-june-2021-final-results>

### **Coronavirus England briefing, 9 July 2021**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-england-briefing-9-july-2021>

### **Prime Minister's statement at coronavirus press conference: 5 July 2021**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/pm-statement-at-coronavirus-press-conference-5-july-2021>

## Other Organisations

### The Health Foundation

Unequal pandemic, fairer recovery

<https://reader.health.org.uk/unequal-pandemic-fairer-recovery>

### NHS England, Public Health England, and several universities

Deaths in Children and Young People in England following SARS-CoV-2 infection during the first pandemic year: a national study using linked mandatory child death reporting data

<https://assets.researchsquare.com/files/rs-689684/v1/3e4e93fb-4e98-4081-9315-16143c2bbd2b.pdf?c=1625678600>

## News

### Covid in Scotland: Restrictions to end as planned

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-57732436>

### Covid: Scotland tops Europe hotspot chart

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-57712737>

### Covid: Most rules set to end in England, says PM

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-57725523>

### Covid: Children's extremely low risk confirmed by study

<https://www.bbc.com/news/health-57766717>

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## Other News

### Leicestershire PCC bans staff from contact with Black Lives Matter

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2021/jul/08/leicestershire-pcc-bans-staff-from-contact-with-black-lives-matter>

### Brexit: NI Jewish community 'at risk' over chilled meat ban

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-northern-ireland-57765223>

### Northern Ireland Protocol puts Belfast's Jewish community under threat

<https://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/northern-ireland/northern-ireland-protocol-puts-belfasts-jewish-community-under-threat-40623149.html>

### Secretary of State pledges to support at-risk Northern Irish Jewish community

<https://www.bod.org.uk/bod-news/secretary-of-state-pledges-to-support-at-risk-northern-irish-jewish-community/>

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## **Bills in Progress**

\*\* new or updated this week

### **UK Parliament**

#### **Asylum Seekers (Accommodation Eviction Procedures) Bill**

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/2995>

#### **Asylum Seekers (Permission to Work) Bill**

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/2918>

#### **Asylum Seekers (Permission to Work) (No. 2) Bill**

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3003>

#### **Asylum Seekers (Return to Safe Countries) Bill**

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/2961>

#### **Barnett Formula (Replacement) Bill**

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/2982>

#### **Housing Standards (Refugees and Asylum Seekers) Bill**

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3002>

#### **Human Trafficking (Child Protection) Bill**

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/2953>

#### **Human Trafficking (Sentencing) Bill**

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/2963>

#### **Illegal Immigration (Offences) Bill**

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/2986>

#### **Immigration (Health and Social Care Staff) Bill**

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3005>

#### **Modern Slavery (Amendment) Bill**

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/2892>

#### **\*\* Nationality and Borders Bill**

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3023>

Bill as introduced

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/58-02/0141/210141.pdf>

Explanatory Notes

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/58-02/0141/en/210141en.pdf>

Delegated Powers Memorandum

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/58-02/0141/delpowersmemonationalityandbordersbill.pdf>

European Convention on Human Rights Memorandum

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/cbill/58-02/0141/ECHRmemo.pdf>

Briefing paper

<https://commonslibrary.parliament.uk/research-briefings/cbp-9275/>

Factsheet

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-nationality-and-borders-bill-factsheet/nationality-and-borders-bill-factsheet>

First Reading, House of Commons

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2021-07-06/debates/2B9C49E7-7F1F-4ED9-93B6-78C600D9F7A8/PointsOfOrder#contribution-BB4549E8-77E7-44A3-9CDB-5084E35C5297>

## Online Safety Bill (Draft)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/draft-online-safety-bill>

## Refugees (Family Reunion) Bill

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/2883>

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## Consultations

\*\* new or updated this week

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

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

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/possible-changes-to-the-immigration-and-asylum-rules-in-relation-to-tribunal-reform>

**Scottish Parliament: what matters to you?** (closing date 30 July 2021)

<https://engage.parliament.scot/group/10027>

**\*\* NHS Scotland Maternity Services during Covid-19 Pandemic** (closing date 31 July 2021)

<http://viis.abdn.ac.uk/snapwebhost/s.asp?k=162301883557>

This consultation is also available in the following languages:

Arabic

<http://viis.abdn.ac.uk/snapwebhost/s.asp?k=162403538992>

Polish

<http://viis.abdn.ac.uk/snapwebhost/s.asp?k=162403542393>

Punjabi

<http://viis.abdn.ac.uk/snapwebhost/s.asp?k=162448049214>

Urdu

<http://viis.abdn.ac.uk/snapwebhost/s.asp?k=162393431073>

**Black Lives in Scotland** (closing date not stated)

<https://blacklivesinscotland.typeform.com/to/YFrnnHSC>

**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>

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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>

### **Adapt and Thrive**

*Closing date 19 July 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/af>

### **Hate Crime Security Fund for Places of Worship**

*Closing date 21 July 2021*

This fund aims to reduce the vulnerability to hate crime that some places of worship across Scotland face. The Scottish Government has made £500,000 available for the provision of capital security measures and improvements. These measures are intended to reduce the risk of hate crimes to places of worship in Scotland and provide reassurance for faith communities who worship at them. ...

Applications are welcomed from individual places of worship of all faiths who can demonstrate their vulnerability to hate crime, whether or not a crime has been committed or reported to the police. ...

Up to 100% grants are available for the installation of up to three security measures and improvements,

You can apply for a maximum of £20,000 to cover all or part of your proposed security measures and improvements. ...

<https://www.impactfundingpartners.com/open-applications/hate-crime-security-fund>

and

<https://tinyurl.com/4ujukfuf>

## **Henry Duncan Grants for mental health and wellbeing**

*Closing date 21 July 2021*

The health, economic and social impacts of the coronavirus pandemic are likely to increase people's need for mental health support. Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic communities have been among those most impacted by the coronavirus pandemic. This is likely to affect people's mental health, for example through fear and anxiety, experience of illness or loss of loved ones. Research has shown that Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic communities are disadvantaged when accessing mental health and well-being services, including the quality of care they receive. This is due to racism, structural and institutional inequalities, fear, stigma and discrimination. For these reasons, Henry Duncan Grants 2021 includes a strand focused on Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic communities. For information see <https://www.corra.scot/grants/henry-duncan-grants/>

## **\*\* Volunteering Support Fund 2021-24**

*Closing date 27 August 2021*

Scottish Government funding to support small to medium third sector organisations recruit volunteers who experience disadvantage or barriers to volunteering. The fund also aims to support organisations to specifically recruit skilled volunteers to enhance the capacity of the organisation as well as the third sector. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/39dyfb27>

## **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/>

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

**\*\* new or updated this week**

**\*\* this week!**

### **Introduction to Working with Religious Diversity**

15 July 2021 (online, 10.30–12.30)

Interfaith Scotland workshop on improving confidence in discussing and responding to the religion and belief of those we work with. The event will explore guiding principles behind working with religion and belief diversity, and take a closer look at the core beliefs and cultural practices of Islam, Sikhism and Judaism. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/fsbvp2ac> or contact Jamie Spurway [jamie@interfaithscotland.org](mailto:jamie@interfaithscotland.org)

### **Advantage Is Invisible – Understanding Unintentional Discrimination**

29 July 2021 (online, 10.30–12.30)

Interfaith Scotland course exploring the nature and patterns of discrimination, focussing on unintentional discrimination, and exploring its prevalence. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/u6tb4ext> or contact Jamie Spurway [jamie@interfaithscotland.org](mailto:jamie@interfaithscotland.org)

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

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>

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

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>

### **Intention Versus Impact – Exploring Challenges Around Group Labels And Unintended Offence**

25 August 2021 (online, 13.30–15.30)

Interfaith Scotland workshop exploring the terminology used to describe groups, particularly in relation to protected characteristics such as race, disability, religion and belief. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/z7wcfh46> or contact Jamie Spurway [jamie@interfaithscotland.org](mailto:jamie@interfaithscotland.org)

### **Debiasing Our Systems, Debiasing Ourselves – An Introduction To Tackling Unconscious Bias**

14 September 2021 (online, 10.30–1.30)

Interfaith Scotland session exploring the evidence of unconscious bias, methods for reducing its impact on decisions and behaviour, and describing the steps that we can take to become more aware of potential bias and how to reduce its impact. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/tamye4rv> or contact Jamie Spurway [jamie@interfaithscotland.org](mailto:jamie@interfaithscotland.org)

### **Interpreting Culture – Improving Cross-Cultural Communication**

14 October 2021 (online, 10.30-13.00)

Interfaith Scotland course to explore how culture forms a lens through which we interpret behaviour, and learn how to improve our inter-cultural communication. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/27mj9h3b> or contact Jamie Spurway [jamie@interfaithscotland.org](mailto:jamie@interfaithscotland.org)

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

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>

### **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), and the theme for 2021 is Together for Our Planet. Event submissions are now open and can be registered on the [Scottish Interfaith Week website](#). Sign up to the [Scottish Interfaith Week newsletter](#) to receive updates.

### **3 Mottos For Equality, Diversity & Inclusion**

17 November 2021 (online, 13.00–16.30)

Interfaith Scotland course considering diversity in its widest sense, looking at three models which provide insight on our experience of difference: the role of the dominant identity in

shaping organisations; why some people overlook the disadvantages that others experience; and how to respond to misunderstandings or offence. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/b762err8> or contact Jamie Spurway [jamie@interfaithscotland.org](mailto:jamie@interfaithscotland.org)

### **Working With People From Diverse Religion & Belief Identities**

14 December 2021 (online, 13.00–16.30)

Interfaith Scotland course on improving confidence in discussing and responding to the religion and belief of those we work with. The event will explore the core beliefs and cultural practices of the main faiths, and individual needs that may arise from a person's faith or belief identity. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/83rwadrb> or contact Jamie Spurway [jamie@interfaithscotland.org](mailto:jamie@interfaithscotland.org)

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## Useful Links

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Disclosure Scotland** <https://www.mygov.scot/disclosure-types>

**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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