

Political Affairs Brief

A daily summary of political events affecting the Jewish Community

Scottish Council of Jewish Communities

SCoJeC

Contents

[Home Affairs](#)

[Holocaust](#)

[Israel](#)

[Relevant Legislation](#)

[Consultations](#)

Home Affairs

UK Parliamentary Question

Anti-Semitism

Chris Huhne: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department when he expects his Department to publish figures on occurrences of anti-Semitic incidents. [306341]

Alan Johnson: The Home Office intends to publish figures on occurrences of anti-Semitic incidents in April 2010.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200910/cmhansrd/cm100129/text/100129w0006.htm#10012984000083>

Home Office

Lord Carlile's fifth annual report on the operation of the Prevention of Terrorism Act 2005

<http://security.homeoffice.gov.uk/news-publications/publication-search/prevention-terrorism-act-2005/response-lord-carlile-5th-report.pdf>

Memorandum to the Home Affairs Committee: Post-Legislative Assessment of the Prevention of Terrorism Act 2005

<http://security.homeoffice.gov.uk/news-publications/publication-search/prevention-terrorism-act-2005/20100201%20post-legislative%20scrutiny%20memo%20Prevention%20of%20Terrorism%20Act%202005.pdf>

Department for Children, Schools and Families

Government publishes revised guidance for RE and a first ever programme of learning for primary RE

- Primary pupils should learn about Christianity and the other five world religions
- Teachers start counting down to the new primary curriculum as QCDA launches new curriculum website

Schools Minister Diana Johnson today published the first ever programme of learning for primary religious education (RE), along with revised guidance for schools and local authorities on how to make sure RE helps pupils get a good knowledge and understanding of religion and belief in 21st century Britain.

The new non-statutory programme of learning and RE guidance will give local authorities and schools more ideas and support on how to develop their local RE curriculum. This will also make RE teaching consistent with the rest of the new primary curriculum, which is intended for first teaching in September 2011. The new programme of learning has been welcomed by teachers, parents, and faith groups during the primary curriculum consultation.

Suggested topics for learning in primary RE lessons include:

- Teaching about important festivals like Christmas, Easter, Pesach, Id-ul-Fitr or Diwali, and learning about different forms of religious expression, like music, dance and art
- Thinking about responses to ethical questions
- Studying traditional religions, such as those from African countries or from China where appropriate.

The programme of learning covers the study of Christianity and the five principal religions – Buddhism, Islam, Judaism, Sikhism and Hinduism. It also recommends that pupils should be given the chance to learn about other religious traditions such as the Baha'i faith, Jainism, and Zoroastrianism, along with secular world views, like humanism, where appropriate.

To read the full press release see

http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/pns/DisplayPN.cgi?pn_id=2010_0027

Materials used to Teach about World Religions in Schools in England

Full report <http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/eOrderingDownload/DCSF-RR197.pdf>

Summary <http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/eOrderingDownload/DCSF-RB197.pdf>

[TOP](#)

Holocaust

European Union Agency for Human Rights

Discover the past for the future: a study of historical sites and museums in Holocaust education and Human Rights education in the EU

Full Report

<http://fra.europa.eu/fraWebsite/attachments/Main-Results-Discover-the-Past-for-the-Future.pdf>

Summary

<http://fra.europa.eu/fraWebsite/attachments/Focus-Report-Discover-the-Past-for-the-Future.pdf>

[TOP](#)

Scottish Parliament Motion

S3M-5642 Jackson Carlaw: Israelis and Palestinians Working Together—That the Parliament considers that there is an unfortunate record of one-sided motions on Israel/Palestine that tend to promote a perception that Israel's influence in the region is entirely negative; observes, in the interests of balance, that Qalqilya was able to harvest its first ever strawberry crop in December 2009 thanks to training, irrigation equipment and pesticides provided by Israel, that Ruwabi, a new Palestinian city, is to be built north of Ramallah with the Israelis helping to plan public parks and other civic amenities and the Israeli charity, Jewish National Fund, helping to plant 3,000 seedlings for a forested area planned for the outskirts of this new city, that Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas has said that "in the West Bank we have a good reality ... the people are living a normal life"; welcomes the recent Scottish Development International mission to Israel and believes that this afforded Scottish companies opportunities to explore potential partnerships with Israeli companies and attract direct foreign investment, and calls on politicians of all parties to make more of an effort to portray a balanced and more responsible view of what is going on in the region, placing an equal emphasis on the positive achievements made over recent times as a result of Israelis and Palestinians working together for a better and more peaceful future.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/Apps2/business/motions/Default.aspx?motionid=18228>

[TOP](#)

Relevant Legislation ** New or updated

UK Parliament

Children, Schools and Families Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2009-10/childrenschoolsandfamilies.html>

**** Constitutional Reform and Governance Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2009-10/constitutionalreformandgovernance.html>

Notice of amendments

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200910/cmbills/004/amend/pbc0040102m.653-659.html>

Crime and Security Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2009-10/crimeandsecurity.html>

Equality Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2009-10/equality.html>

**** Flood and Water Management Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2009-10/floodandwatermanagement.html>

Notice of amendments

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200910/cmbills/053/amend/pbc0532901a.725-731.html>

Scottish Parliament

End of Life Assistance Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/38-EndLifeAssist/index.htm>

[TOP](#)

Consultations

** new or updated

**** closes tomorrow**

Protection of Vulnerable Groups Implementation: Consultation on Significant Draft Secondary Legislation, Guidance and Regulatory Impact Assessment (Scotland only) (closes 2 February 2009)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/People/Young-People/children-families/pvglegislation/Consultation09>

Communities and Local Government: Creating a Single Equality Scheme for 2010 – 2013 (closes 28 February 2010)

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/corporate/pdf/987402.pdf>

Proposal to amend the Licensing Act 2003 to simplify the procedures for Licensing Statements; Interim Authority Notices; and Temporary Event Notices

(closes 9 February 2010)

http://www.culture.gov.uk/reference_library/consultations/6498.aspx

**** Ecclesiastical Exemption (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Order 2010** (closes 15 March 2010)

http://www.culture.gov.uk/reference_library/consultations/6605.aspx

Death Certification, Burial, and Cremation (Scotland) (closes 21 April 2010)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/300112/0093686.pdf>

[TOP](#)

The Scottish Council of Jewish Communities (SCoJeC) is Scottish Charity SCO29438