

Political Affairs Digest

A daily summary of political events affecting the Jewish Community
Scottish Council of Jewish Communities
SCoJeC

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House of Commons Written Answers

Post-mortems: Tomography

Richard Burden (Labour) [134234] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, what assessment he has made of the effectiveness of using computerised tomography for post-mortems; and what guidance his Department has issued to coroners on the use of that technology.

Lucy Frazer: The Ministry of Justice has not assessed the use of computerised tomography for post-mortem examinations because this is a matter for individual coroners who decide how to proceed in light of guidance from the Chief Coroner. The guidance can be found on his website at:

<https://www.judiciary.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/09/guidance-no-1-use-of-port-mortem-imaging.pdf>

The guidance says that a coroner should consider, with the assistance of a pathologist and, where appropriate, a radiologist, whether this method is the most appropriate in any particular case, bearing in mind the wishes of the bereaved family and, if known, of the deceased.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-03-26/134234/>

Post-mortems

Rachel Maclean (Conservative) [134370] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, if he will review the value and purpose of secondary post-mortems.

Lucy Frazer: The Ministry of Justice is not proposing to review second post-mortem examinations.

Coroners are independent judicial office holders and the way they carry out their judicial functions is a matter for them.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-03-27/134370/>

Post-mortems

Richard Burden (Labour) [134378] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, whether he has made an assessment of the extent of variations in rules and protocols surrounding second post-mortems throughout the UK; and if he will make a statement.

Lucy Frazer: The MoJ has not made such an assessment. Coroners continue to rely on Home Office Circular 30/1999

<http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20040722015642/http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/docs/hoc9930.html>

Coroners are independent judicial office holders and the way they carry out their judicial functions is a matter for them.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-03-27/134378/>

House of Lords Written Answer

Radicalism

Lord Pearson of Rannoch (UKIP) [HL6554] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the answer by Lord Young of Cookham on 13 March (HL Deb, col 1505), how they intend to measure the progress of the initiative by British-based Islamic leaders "to dispel the poisonous interpretation of Islam peddled by al-Qaeda and Daesh".

Baroness Williams of Trafford: The Prevent Programme is fundamentally about safeguarding and supporting vulnerable individuals to stop them from becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism. Prevent safeguards people who are vulnerable to radicalisation in a similar way to safeguarding processes designed to protect people from gangs, drug abuse, and physical and sexual abuse. It requires a full-spectrum approach with Government working with the police, statutory partners, the private sector and communities. Currently the greatest threat comes from terrorist recruiters inspired by Daesh. Our Prevent programme will necessarily reflect this by prioritising support for vulnerable British Muslims, and working in partnership with civil society groups to tackle this problem.

Prevent works best when delivered in partnership with our communities, who are working hard to uphold the security of this country, prevent radicalisation and make clear that the actions of Daesh and al-Qaeda are profoundly un-Islamic. 169 community based projects were delivered in 2016/17 reaching over 53,000 participants. 44% of these projects were delivered in schools, aimed at increasing young people's resilience to terrorist and extremist ideologies. We also support community-based initiatives that challenge Daesh's core communications and provide credible counter narratives.

In 2015/16, 36% of those receiving support on Channel was as a result of referrals from the education sector. Of individuals supported by Channel in 2015/16 over 70 per cent were aged 20 years or under and 85 per cent were male. Of those that received Channel support in 2015/16, 83 per cent left with no further CT concerns. Prevent has made a significant impact in preventing people being drawn into terrorism.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-03-21/HL6554/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2018-03-13/debates/AA1542AD-0A4F-4A1B-B93E-695AADDA26C2/ChildSexualExploitationGroomingGangs#contribution-990A4C6B-D4B5-44AF-9A61-47EBD5BB4F39>

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Relevant Legislation ** new or updated today

UK Parliament

European Union (Withdrawal) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/europeanunionwithdrawal.html>

Holocaust (Return of Cultural Objects) (Amendment) Bill

<https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2017-19/holocaustreturnofculturalobjectsamendment.html>

Marriage Act 1949 (Amendment) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/marriageact1949amendment.html>

Organ Donation (Deemed Consent) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/organdonationdeemedconsent.html>

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Consultations

** new or updated today

**** closes tomorrow**

Creating a Parliament for Wales (closing date 6 April 2018)

<http://senedd.assembly.wales/mgConsultationDisplay.aspx?ID=292>

Integrated Communities Strategy green paper (closing date 5 June 2018)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/integrated-communities-strategy-green-paper>

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