



Political Affairs Digest

A daily summary of political events affecting the Jewish Community

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Scottish Parliament Written Answer

Hate Crime and Public Order (Scotland) Act 2021

Paul O’Kane (Labour) [S6W-08613] To ask the Scottish Government whether it will provide an update on the timescale for the implementation of the Hate Crime and Public Order (Scotland) Act 2021.

Reply from Christina McKelvie: The Hate Crime and Public Order (Scotland) Act 2021 must be implemented effectively so that, once in force, it offers robust protections to victims. The Scottish Government is working closely with justice partners to agree a suitable commencement date for the Act.

To complement the implementation of the Act, we are developing a new hate crime strategy for publication later this year, which will help to guide how we successfully tackle hatred and prejudice in Scotland.

To support this, I chaired the inaugural meeting of the Hate Crime Strategic Partnership Group on 28 April. This group will provide a collaborative, multi-agency approach to the Strategy’s development.

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/written-questions-and-answers/question?ref=S6W-08613>

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Holocaust

House of Lords Written Answers

National Holocaust Memorial Centre and Learning Service

Baroness Deech (Crossbench) [HL409] To ask Her Majesty’s Government, further to the Written Answer by Lord Greenhalgh on 28 April (HL7855), when the cost of the UK Holocaust Memorial and Learning Centre was last reviewed.

Lord Greenhalgh: Costs are currently being reviewed in light of the delay due to the High Court judgement.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-05-23/hl409>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-04-22/hl7855>

The judgement referred to above can be read at

<https://www.bailii.org/ew/cases/EWHC/Admin/2022/829.html>

National Holocaust Memorial Centre and Learning Service: Finance

Baroness Deech (Crossbench) [HL410] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Lord Greenhalgh on 28 April (HL7855), why the answer did not provide the information requested regarding (1) spending to date, and (2) further sums already committed.

Lord Greenhalgh: The information is still being assessed.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-05-23/hl410>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-04-22/hl7855>

National Holocaust Memorial Centre and Learning Service

Baroness Deech (Crossbench) [HL411] To ask Her Majesty's Government why they have published no information about the cost of the UK Holocaust Memorial and Learning Centre since December 2018.

Lord Greenhalgh: Information on costs was published in September 2021.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-05-23/hl411>

The information referred to above was included in the following Commons written answers:

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-09-03/41607>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-09-03/41608>

which refers to

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2019-05-13/253497>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-09-03/41609>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2021-09-03/41610>

National Holocaust Memorial Centre and Learning Service

Baroness Deech (Crossbench) [HL412] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Lord Greenhalgh on 28 April (HL7856), what criteria will determine when is the appropriate time to publish further information about the cost of the UK Holocaust Memorial and Learning Centre.

Lord Greenhalgh: Publication will be considered when costs are no longer commercially sensitive.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-05-23/hl412>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-04-22/hl7856>

National Holocaust Memorial Centre and Learning Service

Baroness Deech (Crossbench) [HL413] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Lord Greenhalgh on 28 April (HL7853), what steps they took before July 2019 to (1) ascertain, and (2) secure, the ownership of Victoria Tower Gardens for the proposed UK Holocaust Memorial and Learning Centre; and what assessment they

made of the statutory provisions that existed relating to the use of the land.

Lord Greenhalgh: Victoria Tower Gardens is Crown land. The feasibility of the site was discussed with key stakeholders, including DCMS, Westminster City Council, and The Royal Parks, and no technical obstacles were raised that would prevent the Memorial and Learning Centre being built in Victoria Tower Gardens.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-05-23/hl413>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-04-22/hl7853>

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Israel

House of Commons Written Answers

The following two questions both received the same answer

Israel: Palestinians

David Jones (Conservative) [11576] To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs, whether she has made representations to the Israeli authorities on the impending eviction of Palestinians from the community of Masafer Yatta.

David Jones (Conservative) [11577] To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs, whether she plans to take steps at the United Nations in relation to the proposed eviction by Israel of Palestinians from the settlement of Masafer Yatta.

Amanda Milling: The UK is clear that in all but the most exceptional of circumstances, demolitions and evictions are contrary to International Humanitarian Law. Our opposition to the demolition of Palestinian property and the evictions of Palestinians from their homes is long-standing. The practice causes unnecessary suffering to Palestinians and is harmful to efforts to promote peace. We repeatedly call on Israel to abide by its obligations under international law and have a regular dialogue with Israel on legal issues relating to the occupation.

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-01/11576>

and

<https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2022-06-01/11577>

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Other Relevant Information

UNESCO and European Jewish Congress and Alfred Landecker Foundation and University of Cambridge

International Symposium: Addressing conspiracy theories through education

On 27 June 2022 an international symposium addressing conspiracy theories through education is taking place in Brussels. ... The event can be followed live on the [Facebook](#) and [Youtube](#) page of UNESCO.

<https://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/just/items/748574/en>

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Relevant Legislation ** new or updated today

UK Parliament

Higher Education (Freedom of Speech) Bill

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/2862>

Online Safety Bill

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3137>

**** Schools Bill**

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3156>

Committee Stage, House of Lords

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2022-06-08/debates/0295F0CD-2D07-489B-BEAB-2FF08ED1D01D/SchoolsBill\(HL\)](https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2022-06-08/debates/0295F0CD-2D07-489B-BEAB-2FF08ED1D01D/SchoolsBill(HL))

Scottish Parliament

Gender Recognition Reform (Scotland) Bill

<https://www.parliament.scot/bills-and-laws/bills/gender-recognition-reform-scotland-bill>

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Consultations ** new or updated today

Independent Review of Social Cohesion and Resilience (closing date 23 June 2022)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/independent-review-of-social-cohesion-and-resilience-call-for-evidence/independent-review-of-social-cohesion-and-resilience-call-for-evidence>

Public Participation at the Scottish Parliament (closing date 30 June 2022)

<https://yourviews.parliament.scot/cppp/participation-2022/>

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The Scottish Council of Jewish Communities (SCoJeC) is Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation SC029438