Home Affairs

The Charity Commission

Charities gain new powers as more legislative changes come into force
New powers from the Charities Act 2022 have now come into effect resulting in changes for the sector. …
The Charity Commission has updated its existing guidance to reflect these changes, which includes flexibility for trustees when seeking to dispose of charity land and new powers around the use of permanent endowment.
Changes now in place include simplified legal requirements that charities must comply with before selling, transferring or leasing land, and new statutory powers to enable:
• charities to spend, in certain circumstances, a proportion or all of their permanent endowment fund where the market value of the fund is (£25,000 or less) without Commission authorisation.
• charities to borrow, in certain circumstances, up to 25% of the value of their permanent endowment fund without Commission authorisation.
• charities that have opted into a total return approach to investment to use permanent endowment to make social investments with a negative or uncertain financial return, provided any losses are offset by other gains.
• the Commission to direct a charity to stop using a working name if it is too similar to another charity’s name or is offensive or misleading.
• the Commission to delay registration of a charity with an unsuitable name or delay entry of a new unsuitable name onto the Register of Charities. Working with the principal regulator, the Commission can also use these naming powers on exempt charities.

To read the full press release see https://www.gov.uk/government/news/charities-gain-new-powers-as-more-legislative-changes-come-into-force
Holocaust

Welsh Senedd Ministerial Statement

Refugee Week, 19-25 June—Compassion

279 Minister for Social Justice and Chief Whip (Jane Hutt): … Next week marks the twenty-fifth anniversary of Refugee Week and we will once again celebrate the contributions sanctuary seekers make to Wales. …

280 Refugee Week reminds us of the courage and resilience of those who must leave their family, friends and home to escape persecution or war. We continue to hear brutal stories of the effect of Putin's illegal actions in Ukraine, as a stark and high-profile example of this, and we continue to stand strong with the Ukrainian people. But many of those forced to flee to the UK are also being persecuted simply for being who they are, and sanctuary seekers often have harrowing and complex histories of abuse precipitating their arrival here. …

281 From the 1930s, Jewish refugees arrived in the UK fleeing the racial and religious hatred that ultimately culminated in the Holocaust. Aberystwyth University has recently undertaken excellent research documenting the experiences of the Kindertransport children in Wales. …

Since February 2022, our nation of sanctuary vision has reached significant new heights. 283 … Welsh households have thrown open their doors and their hearts to those needing to escape. Over 3,600 Ukrainians came to the UK, sponsored by Welsh individuals, and many more households are hosting Ukrainians informally. …

285 We’re very alert to the rise of the far right, and we know that Wales is not immune to the hatred and intolerance we’ve seen elsewhere. Even here we’ve seen protests outside accommodation sites, and I want to reiterate clearly that there is no home for hate in Wales. …

To read the full transcript see
https://record.senedd.wales/Plenary/13379#A80287

Information about the Aberystwyth University research referred to above can be read at
https://issuu.com/acesupporthub/docs/aberystwyth_aces_and_child_refugees_report_eng不要太和
https://www.peoplescollection.wales/learn/kindertransport-lesson-1
and
https://www.peoplescollection.wales/learn/kindertransport-lesson-2
and
https://www.peoplescollection.wales/learn/kindertransport-lesson-3
and
https://www.peoplescollection.wales/learn/kindertransport-lesson-4

Israel

See also oral answers to question 905338 “Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps” which are included in the Foreign Affairs section below.

House of Commons Oral Answers

Topical questions: Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office
Theresa Villiers (Conservative) In its 2030 road map for Israel-UK bilateral relations, the Government committed to working closely with Israel on the threat from Iran. I urge the
Secretary of State to do that. Will that include proscription of the Islamic Revolutionary
Guard Corps?

James Cleverly: I have spoken regularly about the process by which proscriptions
are made. We do not routinely speculate on future proscriptions. Our relationship
with Israel is key. I met the Israeli Foreign Minister and signed a UK-Israeli bilateral
road map on 21 March. We continue to hold their safety and security as a priority
in our bilateral relationship. …

Alan Brown (SNP) [905366] … The Government rightly acknowledge that Israeli
settlements on Palestinian land are illegal. When it comes to trade, instead of allowing
settlers to benefit from selling goods and products from land that is not theirs, is it not time
to make trade with settlers illegal as well?

James Cleverly: The UK’s position on settlements is of long standing. We continue
to call on the Israeli Government and the Palestinian Authority to work towards a
sustainable two-state solution. We will always endeavour to make that a reality.
That remains the foundation stone of the UK’s foreign policy in the region.

https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2023-06-13/debates/F1293A21-F40C-4C02-
8592-E73CAFE053CC/TopicalQuestions#contribution-B782297F-4E8E-4E15-9B14-
D3CBB481F8ED

The roadmap referred to above can be read at
https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/2030-roadmap-for-uk-israel-bilateral-
relations/2030-roadmap-for-uk-israel-bilateral-relations

House of Commons Written Answer

Israel: Foreign Relations

Theresa Villiers (Conservative) [905357] To ask the Minister of State for Foreign,
Commonwealth and Development Affairs, what diplomatic steps he is taking to strengthen
the relationship between the UK and Israel.

David Rutley: On 21 March, Foreign Minister Cohen and the Foreign Secretary
signed the 2030 bilateral roadmap, which sets out how we will strengthen our
cooperation over the coming years. We are delighted that negotiations to upgrade
our trade agreement, launched last year, with two rounds of negotiations now
completed.

https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-questions/detail/2023-06-07/905357

The roadmap referred to above can be read at
https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/2030-roadmap-for-uk-israel-bilateral-
relations/2030-roadmap-for-uk-israel-bilateral-relations

House of Commons Library Briefing

Progress on UK free trade agreement negotiations

Amnesty International

Israel/OPT: Investigate possible war crimes during Israel’s military offensive on
Gaza in May 2023
Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps

Bob Blackman (Conservative) [905338] What recent assessment [the Minister] has made of the implications for his policies of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps’ activities in (a) the middle east and (b) globally.

The Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs (James Cleverly): The Government regularly assess the impact of the IRGC’s destabilising activities on the UK’s interests and on British nationals. We work closely with our partners to deter those destabilising activities, including on the interdiction of Iranian weapons in the Gulf and of weapons proliferation in Russia. The UK sanctions the IRGC in its entirety.

Bob Blackman: My right hon. Friend will be aware that the regime is boasting that its hypersonic missiles can hit Tel Aviv in 400 seconds, that the joint comprehensive plan of action restrictions end in October and that there are suggestions that British universities have been involved in research that has led to drones that are attacking Ukrainian positions from Russia. Will he therefore commit to ensuring that there is no delisting of any organisations involved in any of those activities, undertake to research the position with UK universities and proscribe the IRGC in its entirety?

James Cleverly: I am aware of the reports about research that my hon. Friend mentions and we are, of course, looking into that. We continue to stand firm on our commitment that Iran cannot become a nuclear weapons state, and we will ensure that, as the sunset clauses in the JCPOA arrive, we take evolved measures to ensure that that is the case. He will know that we keep designations consistently under review.

Andrew Gwynne (Labour): The Foreign Secretary knows that there are concerns across the House of Commons about the involvement of Iranian state-based actors here in the United Kingdom and their threats towards Iranian activists here who have fled persecution in their homeland. He knows the strength of feeling about proscription as well. What assessment has the Department made of the rapprochement between Saudi Arabia and the Iranian regime, and has he spoken to anybody in Saudi Arabia about that?

James Cleverly: I have had conversations with both the Saudi ambassador to the Court of St James and the Saudi Foreign Minister on that issue. They are making attempts to permanently bring ceasefires in Yemen to a full peace settlement. If that is the case, we are very happy to support that action. We remain deeply engaged with regard to Iran’s regional behaviour. On the threats to British nationals and people based here in the UK, the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office maintains a very close and ongoing working relationship with the Home Office, as the hon. Gentleman would expect, so that we can co-ordinate both our defence and our international actions on that issue.

https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2023-06-13/debates/E69873F4-4F57-4116-9EC6-9831F50E7929/IslamicRevolutionaryGuardCorps
Relevant Legislation  ** new or updated today**

**UK Parliament**

Bill of Rights Bill
https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3227

Education (Non-religious Philosophical Convictions) Bill
https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3186

Holocaust Memorial Bill
https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3421

Marriage Act 1949 (Amendment) Bill
https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3325

Online Safety Bill
https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3137

Nakba Commemoration Bill
https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3461

Palestine Statehood (Recognition) Bill
https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3217

Private Burial Grounds and Cemeteries Bill
https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3188

Same Sex Marriage (Church of England)
https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3438

Schools Bill
https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3156

Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Draft Bill

Universal Credit (Removal of Two Child Limit) Bill
https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3163

Universal Jurisdiction (Extension)
https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3454
The Scottish Council of Jewish Communities (SCoJeC) is Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation SC029438

** Scottish Parliament **

** Charities (Regulation and Administration) (Scotland) Bill **

** Gender Recognition Reform (Scotland) Bill **

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** Consultations **

** new or updated today **

** closes tomorrow **
Supporting earlier resolution of private family law arrangements (closing date 15 June 2023)

** closes in 4 days **
Review of the Race Relations (NI) Order 1997 (closing date 18 June 2023)

** closes in 9 days **
Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Draft Bill (closing date 23 June 2023)
[https://committees.parliament.uk/call-for-evidence/3146/](https://committees.parliament.uk/call-for-evidence/3146/)

Charities tax compliance (closing date 20 July 2023)