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PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
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HOUSE OF LORDS

WRITTEN STATEMENTS AND WRITTEN ANSWERS

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Baroness Anelay of St Johns	Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office
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Lord Bates	Minister of State, Department for International Development
Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth	Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department for Communities and Local Government, Wales Office
Lord Bridges of Headley	Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department for Exiting the European Union
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Lord Keen of Elie	Advocate-General for Scotland and Ministry of Justice Spokesperson
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Lord Price	Minister of State, Department for International Trade
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Baroness Shields	Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Home Office and Department for Culture Media and Sport
Lord Taylor of Holbeach	Chief Whip
Baroness Vere of Norbiton	Whip
Baroness Williams of Trafford	Minister of State, Home Office
Lord Young of Cookham	Whip
Viscount Younger of Leckie	Whip

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Written Statements

Wednesday, 11 January 2017

Office of the Immigration Services Commissioner

[[HLWS405](#)]

Baroness Williams of Trafford: My rt hon Friend the Secretary of State for the Home Department (Amber Rudd) has today made the following Written Ministerial Statement:

On 16 October 2014 the then Home Secretary (Theresa May) announced in Parliament, via a Written Ministerial Statement, the commencement of the triennial review of the Office of the Immigration Services Commissioner (OISC). I am now pleased to announce the completion of the review.

The OISC is an independent body that regulates immigration advisers throughout the United Kingdom, ensuring they are fit, competent and act in the best interests of their clients.

The review concludes that the functions performed by the OISC are still required and that it should be retained as a non-departmental public body. The review looked at the governance arrangements for the body in line with guidance on good corporate governance set out by the Cabinet Office. The review also examined value for money, performance, engagement with the regulated sector and efficiency. The report makes 19 recommendations; 10 for the OISC and 9 that will be the responsibility of the Home Office to take forward.

The full report of the review of the OISC can be found on the GOV.UK website and a copy will be placed in the House Library.

Written Answers

Wednesday, 11 January 2017

English Baccalaureate

Asked by Lord Lexden

To ask Her Majesty's Government when they plan to announce the results of their consultation on the English Baccalaureate which closed in January. [[HL4275](#)]

Lord Nash: We will publish the Government response to the consultation on the implementation of the English Baccalaureate policy in due course.

Home Office: Reviews

Asked by Lord Kennedy of Southwark

To ask Her Majesty's Government how many reviews have been announced in Parliament by the Home Office in the last six years; how many have been completed; how many are still ongoing; and what is the timescale for completion of those reviews still ongoing. [[HL4333](#)]

Baroness Williams of Trafford: All announcements by Ministers in my Department are placed in the Parliamentary records.

Accounts of progress are given within the normal course of Parliamentary business.

Pakistan: Religious Freedom

Asked by Lord Pearson of Rannoch

To ask Her Majesty's Government what representations they have made to the government of Pakistan about the recent attacks on the Ahmadi mosque in Chakwal, and on the headquarters of the Ahmadiyya Muslim community in Raburah; and about the arrest of Ahmadis in these incidents. [[HL4354](#)]

Baroness Anelay of St Johns: The UK Government is aware of reports of the raid on an Ahmadiyya Muslim office in Rabwah on 5 December and condemns the attack on the Ahmadiyya mosque in Chakwal on 12 December. The Government strongly condemns the persecution of all minorities, including the targeting of people based on their beliefs. Our concerns are reflected in the latest update to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office annual human rights report.

We regularly raise our concerns about the protection of minority communities, including religious minorities, with the Government of Pakistan. During his visit to Pakistan in November 2016, the Foreign Secretary, my Rt Hon. Friend the Member for Uxbridge and South Ruislip (Mr Johnson), raised religious tolerance and the importance of safeguarding the rights of all Pakistan's citizens. During his visit to Pakistan in January 2017, the Minister for Asia and the Pacific, my Hon. Friend the Member for Reading West (Mr Sharma), raised the protection of minorities, including the Ahmadiyya, with Kamran Michael, Pakistani Minister for Human Rights, and Barrister Zafarullah Khan, the Prime Minister's Special Assistant for Human Rights. The Government continues to urge Pakistan to honour in practice its human rights obligations, including those related to religious minorities, and to uphold the rule of law.

Refugees: Children

Asked by Lord Roberts of Llandudno

To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they intend to publish immediately a report outlining the care received in France by those under the age of 18 who are applying for admission to the UK. [[HL4045](#)]

Baroness Williams of Trafford: The UK supported the French authorities in the operation to clear the Calais camp and safely move the minors from the camp to specialist alternative accommodation across France. However the provision of care to migrants in France is the responsibility of the French Government.

UK Trade with EU

Asked by Lord Pearson of Rannoch

To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of what tariffs would be paid by EU exporters on their trade with the UK, and what tariffs would be paid by UK exporters on their trade with the EU single market, if World Trade Organisation tariffs start to apply to UK trade with the EU single market. [[HL4372](#)]

Lord Bridges of Headley: If the UK were to leave the EU without alternative trading arrangements in place, WTO rules would require that trade between the UK and the EU would be subject to Most-Favoured Nation (MFN) treatment for goods and services.

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