

United Kingdom, British Overseas Territories and Crown Dependencies

Universal Periodic Review – Mid Term Report

2020

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Abbreviations / Glossary

BAME =	Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic
CAT =	United Nations Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
CEDAW =	United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women
CEDAW-OP =	United Nations Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women
Core Document 2014 =	Core Document 2014 of the United Kingdom, British Overseas Territories and Crown Dependencies ¹
CPED =	United Nations International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance
CRC =	United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
CRC-OP-AC =	United Nations Optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict
CRC-OP-SC =	United Nations Optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography
Crown Dependencies =	There are three Crown Dependencies: Bailiwick of Guernsey; Bailiwick of Jersey; Isle of Man

¹ HRI/CORE/GBR/2014 - http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/TreatyBodyExternal/CoreDocuments.aspx

CRPD =	United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
CRPD-OP =	United Nations Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
ECHR =	Council of Europe European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms.
ECPT =	Council of Europe European Convention for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
ECtHR =	Council of Europe European Court of Human Rights
EU =	European Union
ICC =	International Criminal Court
ICCPR =	United Nations International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
ICCPR-OP2 =	United Nations Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty
ICERD =	United Nations International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination
ICESCR =	United Nations International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
ICMW =	United Nations International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families
ILO =	International Labour Organisation
Istanbul Convention =	Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence
LGBT =	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender

NHS =	National Health Service
OECD =	Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development
OPCAT =	Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
Overseas Territories =	There are fourteen British Overseas Territories but only ten have permanent local populations, namely: Anguilla; Bermuda; Cayman Islands; Falkland Islands; Gibraltar; Montserrat; the group Pitcairn, Henderson, Ducie and Oeno; the group St Helena, Ascension, Tristan da Cunha; Turks and Caicos Islands; Virgin Islands (commonly known as the British Virgin Islands).
UK =	United Kingdom (England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, Wales)
UK National Human Rights Institutions =	There are three in the UK: Equality and Human Rights Commission; Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission; Scottish Human Rights Commission
UN =	United Nations
UPR =	United Nations Universal Periodic Review
VAWG =	Violence against women and girls

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Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
134.1 (right of individual petition to the UN)	Mozambique	Further consider its position on accepting the right of individual petition to the United Nations beyond the OP-CEDAW and OP-CRPD.	<p>The UK considered its position on accepting the right of individual petition to the UN beyond the CEDAW and the CRPD. It concluded that the benefits of the communication procedure remain unclear, especially for the applicant.</p> <p>In particular, the UN process is not an appeal mechanism, it cannot reverse decisions of the domestic courts, and it cannot result in an enforceable award of compensation for the applicant.</p> <p>The UK is party to the European Convention on Human Rights, thus people in the UK already have access to the application process to the European Court of Human Rights after having exhausted the various domestic remedies within the UK.</p>	Noted	<p>The UK's position remains unchanged from 2017.</p> <p>The UK believes that effective domestic laws already exist, under which individuals may seek enforceable remedies in the courts if their rights have been breached.</p>	Noted
134.2 (ratifying human rights treaties)	Paraguay	Accede to the human rights conventions and protocols to which is not yet party in order to facilitate the	As set out in the Core Document 2014, the UK is already a party to various treaties protecting human rights and combating discrimination. Many of these treaties have also been extended to the Crown	Noted	<p>The UK's position remains mostly unchanged from 2017.</p> <p>CEDAW has since been extended to Anguilla, Cayman Islands, Bermuda</p>	Noted

² "Supported" means that the UK has either fully implemented a recommendation or intends to do so. "Noted" means that the UK has taken some steps but it is not fully implementing a recommendation.

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
		harmonization of the national human rights legislation across its territories.	<p>Dependencies and the Overseas Territories.</p> <p>The domestic legal framework to protect human rights and combating discrimination in the UK, Territories and Dependencies broadly remains as set out in the Core Document 2014.</p> <p>Ratification of additional human rights treaties will be considered on a case by case basis.</p>		and St Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha.	
134.3 (ratifying human rights treaties)	Uganda	Consider ratifying those international human rights instruments that the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland has not yet ratified.	See response to 134.2.	Supported	<p>As set out in the Core Document 2014, the UK is already a party to various treaties protecting human rights and combating discrimination. Many of these treaties have also been extended to the Crown Dependencies and the Overseas Territories.</p> <p>The domestic legal framework to protect human rights and combating discrimination in the UK, Territories and Dependencies broadly remains as set out in the Core Document 2014.</p> <p>Ratification of additional human rights treaties will be considered on a case by case basis.</p>	Supported
134.4 (withdrawing reservations)	Belarus	Step up the process of reviewing the reservations made to the international	The UK remains mindful of the need to keep under review all reservations that it placed under the UN treaties.	Supported	The UK's position remains unchanged from 2017.	Supported

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
		human rights treaties.				
134.5 (withdrawing ICERD reservation)	Libya	Lift the reservation on the article 4 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.	<p>The UK maintains its interpretation of Article 4.</p> <p>Domestic law prohibits the incitement to racial hatred; the law applies to online and offline media as well as to individuals. But the UK also has a long tradition of freedom of speech which allows individuals to hold and express views which may well be contrary to those of the majority of the population, and which many may find distasteful or even offensive. The UK Government believes that it strikes the right balance between maintaining the right to freedom of speech and protecting individuals from violence and hatred.</p>	Noted	<p>The UK maintains its interpretation of Article 4.</p> <p>Journalists and media are subject to the same hate crime legislation as other citizens. There are several actions in the Hate Crime Action Plan that seek to work with the media industry to reduce the harm caused by hate speech whilst respecting the right to free speech and the importance of a free media as an integral part of a democratic society. Examples of the actions we have taken include working with the Society of Editors, the Media Trust and the Independent Press Standards Organisation to improve journalists' understanding of minority groups, this work includes working with the Independent Press Standards Organisation to devise training to help journalists develop better understanding of Islam.</p>	Noted
134.6 (ratifying ILO 189)	Philippines	Ratify the ILO Convention 189.	<p>The UK Government remains unconvinced of the need to ratify this Convention.</p> <p>The UK already has in place comprehensive legislative and administrative measures to protect workers' rights, including on: trade union representation (and industrial action);</p>	Noted	The UK's position remains unchanged from 2017.	Noted

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
			<p>combating discrimination, bullying and harassment at work; retirement age; employees' personal data; pregnant employees' rights; and reasonable adjustment for (and recruitment of) disabled people.</p> <p>The UK Government remains concerned that the implementation of ILO 189 would impose disproportionate burdens on businesses and raise issues of privacy; this could have serious social consequences.</p>			
134.7 (right of individual petition to the UN)	Portugal	Ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Optional Protocol to Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance.	The UK is not a party to the CPED. For the remaining treaties, see the response to 134.1	Noted	<p>The UK's position remains unchanged from 2017.</p> <p>The UK has not ratified the Optional Protocol to Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure because the UK Government believes that effective domestic laws already exist, under which individuals may seek enforceable remedies in the courts if their rights have been breached.</p>	Noted
134.8 (ratifying the	Albania; Chile	Consider ratifying the International	The UK Government considers that the current domestic framework already	Noted	The UK's position remains unchanged from 2017.	Noted

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
CPED)		Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance.	<p>prevents arbitrary arrests, prohibits torture and degrading treatment, and holds the Security and Intelligence Agencies to account. It is therefore unclear about the benefits of ratifying the CPED.</p> <p>Existing measures to protect people’s rights and prevent enforced disappearance include, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The prohibition of torture and the right to liberty and security, enforced through the Human Rights Act 1998; - The offence of torture under s.134 Criminal Justice Act 1988; - Extensive legislation, such as the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 and related Codes of Practice, providing a statutory framework against arbitrary arrests by the police; - The regular monitoring of UK places of detention by the UK National Preventive Mechanism (established under the OPCAT, and bringing together inspection bodies from across the UK), and also under the ECPT; - Accountability of the Security and Intelligence Agencies via, for example, the Intelligence and Security Committee of Parliament, 		<p>The UK Government’s 2010 “Consolidated Guidance to Intelligence Officers and service Personnel on the Detention and Interviewing of Detainees Overseas, and on the Passing and Receipt of Intelligence Relating to Detainees” has been replaced with "The Principles relating to the detention and interviewing of detainees overseas and the passing and receipt of intelligence relating to detainees " as of 1 January 2020.</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
			<p>and the Investigatory Powers Tribunal;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The UK Government's 2010 "Consolidated Guidance to Intelligence Officers and service Personnel on the Detention and Interviewing of Detainees Overseas, and on the Passing and Receipt of Intelligence Relating to Detainees"; - UK Armed Forces on operations overseas are at all times subject to the criminal law of England and Wales, and are required to act in accordance with applicable international humanitarian law. 			
134.9 (right of individual petition under the ICCPR)	Albania	Consider ratifying the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.	See the response to 134.1	Noted	The UK's position remains unchanged from 2017.	Noted
134.10 (ratifying the ICMW)	Chile	Consider ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of all Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families.	<p>The UK Government considers that the rights of migrant workers are already protected in domestic legislation, including under the Human Rights Act 1998 and the Equality Act 2010. The UK Government is therefore unclear about the benefits of ratifying this Convention, and it has no current plans to do so.</p> <p>The UK Government also notes the very low number of States Parties to the Convention;</p>	Noted	The UK's position remains unchanged from 2017.	Noted

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
			<p>in particular, no EU Member State, the United States or Japan have ratified the Convention.</p> <p>Furthermore, migrants who are legally working in the UK already enjoy the full protection of UK employment law. Legislation, such as that enforced by the Gangmasters and Labour Abuse Authority and the Employment Agency Standards Inspectorate, exists to protect vulnerable workers, including those from overseas. Migrant workers are also entitled to the same protections under health and safety legislation as any other worker.</p>			
134.11 (right of individual petition under the ICCPR)	Panama; Estonia	Ratify the First Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.	See the response to 134.1	Noted	The UK's position remains unchanged from 2017.	Noted
134.12 (right of individual petition to the UN)	Czechia	Take necessary steps to allow individual complaints mechanisms under United Nations human rights treaties such as the Convention Against Torture, International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Convention on the	See the response to 134.1	Noted	<p>The UK's position remains unchanged from 2017.</p> <p>On the Convention on the Rights of the Child, please see the response to 134.7.</p>	Noted

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
		Rights of the Child.				
134.13 (right of individual petition under the ICCPR)	Guatemala	Ratify promptly the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights on a communications procedure.	See the response to 134.1.	Noted	The UK's position remains unchanged from 2017.	Noted
134.14 (right of individual petition under the ICCPR)	Romania	Consider ratification of the First Optional Protocol to International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.	See the response to 134.1.	Noted	The UK's position remains unchanged from 2017.	Noted
134.15 (withdrawing ICESCR reservations)	Pakistan	Withdraw reservations from the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.	See the response to 134.4.	Noted	The UK's position remains unchanged from 2017.	Noted
134.16 (right of individual petition under the ICESCR)	Spain	Ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.	See the response to 134.1.	Noted	The UK's position remains unchanged from 2017.	Noted
134.17 (right of individual petition under the CRC)	Slovakia	Ratify the third optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communication	See the response to 134.1.	Noted	See the response to 134.7.	Noted

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
		procedure as it reinforces and complements national and regional mechanisms.				
134.18 (right of individual petition under the CRC)	Georgia	Consider the ratification of the Optional Protocol on the Convention on the Rights of the Child of a communications procedure.	See the response to 134.1.	Noted	See the response to 134.7.	Noted
134.19 (right of individual petition under the CRC)	Liechtenstein	In order to further strengthen the fulfilment of children's rights, ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure.	See the response to 134.1.	Noted	See the response to 134.7.	Noted
134.20 (right of individual petition under the CRC)	Montenegro	Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure.	See the response to 134.1.	Noted	See the response to 134.7.	Noted
134.21 (right of individual petition under the CRC)	Croatia	Consider ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Right of the Child on a	See the response to 134.1.	Noted	See the response to 134.7.	Noted

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
		Communications Procedure.				
134.22 (withdrawing reservation under the CRC-OP-AC)	Czechia	Withdraw its interpretative declaration to Article 1 of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict and unconditionally forbid children from taking part in hostilities.	<p>The UK Government sees the recruitment of individuals between the ages of 16 and 18 as offering a range of benefits to the individual, the Armed Forces and society - providing a highly valuable, vocational training opportunity for those wishing to follow a career in the Armed Forces.</p> <p>The UK take its duty of care for entrants under 18 extremely seriously. Robust, effective and independently verified safeguards are in place to ensure that under-18s are cared for properly.</p> <p>The provision of education and training for 16 year old school leavers provides a route into the Armed Forces that complies with UK Government education policy, while also providing a significant foundation for emotional, physical and educational development throughout an individual's career.</p> <p>There is no compulsory recruitment into the Armed Forces. Our recruiting policy is absolutely clear. No-one under the age of 18 can join the Armed Forces without formal parental consent, which is checked twice during the application process. In addition, parents and guardians are positively encouraged to be engaged with the Recruiting staff during the process.</p> <p>Service personnel under the age of 18 are</p>	Noted	<p>The UK's position remains unchanged from 2017.</p> <p>The UK Government is responsible for recruitment to the armed forces. The Armed Forces (Enlistment) Regulations 2009 (SI 2009/2057) prohibit persons under the age of 18 from joining the Armed Forces without the consent of prescribed persons - in Scotland, those with parental responsibilities. All Service personnel have a statutory right to claim discharge up to their 18th birthday, and the right of discharge is made clear to all Service personnel on joining the Armed Forces.</p>	Noted.

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
			not deployed on any operation outside of the UK except where the operation does not involve personnel becoming engaged in, or exposed to, hostilities. There is a long-standing legal right of all new recruits, regardless of age, to discharge within their first 3 to 6 months of service (depending on their Service) if they decide that the Armed Forces is not a career for them. Armed Forces Regulations, also provide everyone under the age of 18 serving in the Armed Forces with a further right to claim discharge up to their 18 th birthday.			
134.23 (ratifying the ICMW)	Guatemala	Ratify promptly the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Their Families Members.	See the response to 134.10.	Noted	The UK's position remains unchanged from 2017.	Noted
134.24 (ratifying the ICMW)	Kyrgyzstan; Philippines; Algeria; Egypt	Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families.	See the response to 134.10.	Noted	The UK's position remains unchanged from 2017.	Noted
134.25 (ratifying human rights)	Nigeria	Consider ratifying those international human rights	See the responses to 134.2 and 134.10.	Noted	See the response to 134.10.	Noted

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
treaties, including the ICMW)		instruments it had not yet ratified, including the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families.				
134.26 (ratifying the ICMW)	Sri Lanka	Accede to the International Covenant on the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families.	See the response to 134.10.	Noted	The UK's position remains unchanged from 2017.	Noted
134.27 (ratifying the ICMW; immigration detention)	Syrian Arab Republic	Accede to the International Convention on the protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families and stop the practice of arresting immigrants for unspecified periods.	On the ICMW, see the response to 134.10. Although there is no statutory time limit on immigration detention in the UK, it is not lawfully possible to detain persons indefinitely. UK detention policy operates with a presumption of liberty: detention must be a last resort and alternatives to detention (temporary admission or temporary release) must be considered before a decision to detain is made. The UK has a long and proud tradition of providing safe haven to those who genuinely need asylum. But for an asylum system to offer help to those who genuinely need it, it must be capable of dealing robustly with	Noted	The UK's position remains unchanged from 2017. We are maximising the use of alternatives to detention by managing individuals in the community through immigration bail and regular reporting. In addition, we use electronic monitoring in the cases of foreign national offenders, and we are making good progress to introduce satellite tracking to extend the use of such monitoring.	Noted

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
			<p>unfounded or abusive claims. Where an individual claims asylum after being detained for removal, the UK may consider their asylum claim in detention if their claim can be decided fairly and detention remains appropriate.</p> <p>Once detained, an individual's continued detention remains under regular review by the UK Government to ensure that it remains lawful and in line with government's policy. Where this no longer applies, detainees are released. Individuals may also apply for release from detention on immigration bail and challenge the lawfulness of their detention in the courts.</p>			
134.28 (ratifying the ICMW)	Turkey	Sign and ratify the International Convention on the protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families.	See the response to 134.10.	Noted	See the response to 134.10.	Noted
134.29 (ratifying the ICMW)	Uruguay	Continue considering adhering to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and their Families, as previously	See the response to 134.10.	Noted	See the response to 134.10.	Noted

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
		recommended.				
134.30 (ratifying the ICMW)	Bangladesh	Consider ratifying the International Convention on the protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families.	See the response to 134.10.	Noted	See the response to 134.10.	Noted
134.31 (ratifying the CPED)	Germany; Panama; France	Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance.	See the response to 134.8.	Noted	The UK's position remains unchanged from 2017.	Noted
134.32 (ratifying the CPED)	Tunisia	Ratify the International Convention for the protection of all Persons from Enforced Disappearance.	See the response to 134.8.	Noted	The UK's position remains unchanged from 2017.	Noted
134.33 (ratifying the CPED)	Sierra Leone	Sign and accede to the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance.	See the response to 134.8.	Noted	The UK's position remains unchanged from 2017.	Noted
134.34	Iraq	Accede to the	See the response to 134.8.	Noted	The UK's position remains unchanged	Noted

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
(ratifying the CPED)		International Convention for the protection of all Persons from Enforced Disappearance.			from 2017.	
134.35 (ratifying the CPED)	Japan	Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance as an expression of its commitment to addressing this issue.	See the response to 134.8.	Noted	The UK's position remains unchanged from 2017.	Noted
134.36 (ratifying the CPED)	Sudan	Consider the ratification of the International Convention for the protection of all Persons from Enforced Disappearance.	See the response to 134.8.	Noted	The UK's position remains unchanged from 2017.	Noted
134.37 (ratifying the CPED)	Uruguay	Continue considering adhering to the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and	See the response to 134.8.	Noted	The UK's position remains unchanged from 2017.	Noted

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
		recognising the competence of its supervisory body, as previously recommended.				
134.38 (ratifying the CPED)	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Continue its work on accession to the Convention for the Protection of all Persons from enforced Disappearances	See the response to 134.8.	Noted	The UK's position remains unchanged from 2017.	Noted
134.39 (ratifying ILO 169)	Guatemala	Ratify promptly the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169) of the International Labour Organisation.	The UK Government voted in favour of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in 2007. The UK Government does not plan to become party to ILO Convention 169. This Convention sets out a framework for the way in which governments operate towards indigenous people in their own territories. There are no indigenous or tribal people in the UK, the Crown Dependencies or Overseas Territories, as defined by Article 1A of the Convention. Therefore, the obligations in the Convention would have no practical effect in the UK. The UK remains committed to promoting the rights of indigenous people overseas.	Noted	The UK's position remains unchanged from 2017. Additionally, the UK is already committed to promoting and protecting human rights for indigenous people. Our human rights report for 2011 lists projects we supported bilaterally or with EU partners in Colombia, Cambodia, Guatemala, Bolivia and Brazil.	Noted
134.40 (ratifying ILO 189)	Panama	Ratify the ILO Convention 189 concerning decent work for domestic	See the response to 134.6.	Noted	See the response to 134.6.	Noted

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
		workers.				
134.41 (ratifying ILO 189)	Uruguay	Consider ratifying ILO Convention 189 concerning decent work for domestic workers.	See the response to 134.6	Noted	See the response to 134.6.	Noted
134.42 (ratifying the Lanzarote Convention)	Slovenia	Ratify the Council of Europe Convention on Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (Lanzarote Convention).	The UK Government takes its international commitments very seriously and will only commit to formal ratification when it is satisfied that it is in a position to do so. Officials are finalising assessments of what needs to be done under domestic legislation and the practical arrangements for a possible ratification.	Noted	<p>The UK ratified the Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (Lanzarote Convention) in June 2018.</p> <p>In June 2019, the UK provided a response to the Council's General Overview Questionnaire. This response set out the range of actions being implemented in Scotland to support the prevention of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children; the protection and promotion of the rights of child victims; and the prosecution of perpetrators.</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND The Scottish Government published a report³ in June 2020 outlining the work delivered since 2016 of Scotland's National Action Plan to Prevent and</p>	Supported

³ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/national-action-plan-prevent-tackle-child-sexual-exploitation-final-delivery-report/>

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					Tackle Child Sexual Exploitation. Work continues to build on the foundations laid by the 2016 Action Plan through a range of Government-supported Programmes which collectively take action to prevent and protect children in Scotland from child sexual abuse, child sexual exploitation and provide appropriate support to victims and survivors. Specific details of the prevention activities in Scotland can be provided if that would be helpful	
134.43 (ratifying the Istanbul Convention)	Italy	Ratify the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence, the Istanbul Convention.	<p>The UK signed the Istanbul Convention in 2012 to show its strong commitment to tackling VAWG.</p> <p>The UK remains committed to ratifying the Istanbul Convention. In most respects, the measures already in place in the UK to protect women and girls from violence comply with or go further than the Convention requires. In order to be compliant with Article 44 of the Convention, the UK must take extra-territorial jurisdiction (ETJ) over certain offences if committed abroad by UK nationals. The UK Government will introduce the ETJ measures necessary for compliance for England and Wales as part of the forthcoming Domestic Abuse Bill.</p>	Supported	<p>The UK position remains unchanged from 2017 in relation to the commitment to tackling VAWG.</p> <p>To that end the UK introduced the Domestic Abuse Bill in 2019.</p> <p>However, in order for Northern Ireland to be compliant with Article 33, an offence relating to domestic abuse must be introduced in Northern Ireland. The UK Government included measures to address both matters in the Domestic Abuse Bill, which was introduced in the previous Parliament. In the light of concerns raised by Parliament's Joint Committee on the draft Domestic Abuse Bill about the</p>	Supported

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>issue of support for migrant victims of domestic abuse, the [previous] Government committed to review the overall response to migrant victims of domestic abuse, taking into account any obligations we may have under the Istanbul Convention.</p> <p>This relates to Articles 4(3) (to the extent that it relates to non-discrimination on the grounds of migrant or refugee status) and 59 of the Convention in particular.</p>	
134.44 (ratifying the Istanbul Convention)	Montenegro	Ratify Council of Europe Conventions on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence.	See the response to 134.43.	Supported	See the response to 134.43.	Supported
134.45 (ratifying the Istanbul Convention)	Spain	Ratify the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence.	See the response to 134.43.	Supported	See the response to 134.43.	Supported
134.46 (ratifying the Istanbul Convention)	Turkey	Ratify the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence	See the response to 134.43.	Supported	See the response to 134.43.	Supported

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
		(Istanbul Convention).				
134.47 (ratifying the Istanbul Convention)	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Pursue its efforts towards ratification to become a state party to the Istanbul Convention in the near future.	See the response to 134.43.	Supported	See the response to 134.43.	Supported
134.48 (ratifying the Istanbul Convention)	Finland	Make the necessary legal, policy and practice related changes to enable the ratification of the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Istanbul Convention) and that it dedicates sufficient resources to central, devolved and local authorities to ensure its effective implementation.	See the response to 134.43.	Supported	See the response to 134.43.	Supported
134.49 (ratifying the Lanzarote Convention)	Andorra	Ratify the Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse.	See the response to 134.42.	Noted	See the response to 134.42	Supported

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
134.50 (ratifying the Lanzarote Convention)	Bulgaria	Ratify the Convention of the Council of Europe on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse.	See the response to 134.42.	Noted	See the response to 134.42	Supported
134.51 (accepting amendments to the Rome Statute on the ICC)	Andorra	Consider accepting the Kampala Amendments to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court relating to the crime of aggression.	<p>The UK strongly supports the rules-based international system. As such, the UK supports and remains committed to the ICC.</p> <p>The UK called for further discussion and greater clarity on the Court’s jurisdiction over the crime of aggression before activation. This is not to undo or re-open the amendments agreed in Kampala, but instead to develop a common understanding of how the jurisdiction will be exercised. The UK therefore welcomed the establishment of a facilitation process so that States take the responsibility for ensuring clarity rather than leaving the question of jurisdiction to the Court to resolve in future individual cases.</p>	Noted	In December 2017, the ICC Assembly of States Parties (ASP) considered how and when to activate the Court’s jurisdiction and confirmed that the Court does not have jurisdiction in respect of the territory or nationals of a State that has not accepted the crime of aggression amendments to the Rome Statute, absent a UN Security Council resolution. The UK has no plans to ratify the crime of aggression amendments. The UK recognises that, following the ASP’s decision, it is for each State to choose whether to ratify the aggression amendments to the Rome Statute, and thereby accept the Court’s jurisdiction over the crime of aggression in relation to acts committed by its nationals.	Noted
134.52 (non-applicability of statutory limitations to war crimes)	Armenia	Ratify the Convention on the Non-Applicability of Statutory Limitations to War Crimes and	The UK remains committed to pursuing justice in a manner that is fair and in accordance with internationally accepted norms. The UK is confident that its domestic legal framework enables it to prosecute	Noted	The UK has no statute of limitations for any criminal offence of a serious nature. This includes war crimes and crimes against humanity.	Noted

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
and crimes against humanity)		Crimes against Humanity.	those suspected of perpetrating war crimes and crimes against humanity, in a manner consistent with international law including international human rights law.			
134.53 (implementing the Convention on statelessness)	Kenya	Implement the 1954 Convention on statelessness to ensure that stateless persons in Britain access British nationality.	<p>Ever since 1959, the UK has been a party to the UN Convention Relating to the Status of Stateless Persons.</p> <p>But those who are stateless are not at risk of persecution or serious harm on return to their country of former habitual residence so such status is not the same as refugee status or humanitarian protection. The UK stateless leave policy is specifically designed to assist those who do not need protection but are unable to return to their country of former habitual residence. Those who demonstrate that they are stateless also have to show that they are not admissible to another country for the purposes of residence there in order to qualify for leave to remain in the UK. Those who face persecution or serious harm on return should claim asylum.</p>	Noted	<p>The Home Office stateless leave policy is designed to assist those who are unable to return to their country of former habitual residence because they are stateless and no longer have a right of residence there. This reflects our obligations under the UN Stateless Conventions by providing a means for stateless persons in the UK to access their basic human rights and is part of our efforts to address wider global issues facing stateless persons.</p> <p>Those who are stateless need to show they will not be admitted to another country for the purposes of permanent residence there to qualify for stateless leave.</p> <p>Those who qualify for stateless leave are granted five years' limited leave and have access to employment and mainstream benefits. They can apply for settlement after five years on this route and, once settled, will be eligible to apply for citizenship after 12 months. No fee is payable by stateless persons applying for limited or indefinite leave to remain in the United</p>	Noted

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					Kingdom.	
134.54 (cooperation with human rights mechanisms)	Côte d'Ivoire	Pursue cooperation with the international human rights mechanisms.	<p>The UK continues to welcome visits from UN Special Rapporteurs, and successive UK governments have maintained a standing invitation to Special Rapporteur visits. The UK sees the work of treaty monitoring bodies as an essential element in the promotion and protection of human rights throughout the world, and a catalyst for achieving positive change. The UK welcomes opportunities to discuss the fulfilment of its treaty obligations with the monitoring bodies, and values the advice given by expert committees on the implementation of the treaties to which the UK is party.</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND</p> <p>The Scottish Government supports the FCO in facilitating visits from UN Special Rapporteurs, most recently during the visit in January 2017 of the Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes. The Scottish Government greatly values opportunities to engage constructively with Special Procedures and the expert insight they provide on human rights issues in Scotland.</p>	Supported	<p>The UK's position remains unchanged from 2017</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND</p> <p>Under the Scotland Act 1998, the Scottish Parliament has competence to observe and implement international obligations.</p> <p>The Scottish Government works closely with the UK Government to report on compliance with international human rights treaty obligations as they apply in Scotland, both by contributing to formal state party reports and by participating in interactive dialogues as part of official UK delegations.</p>	Supported

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
134.55 (engaging civil society organisations)	Egypt	Take into consideration the opinion of the civil society and its role in supporting the decision making process, particularly with regard to the implementation of recommendations presented to them during the UPR session, additionally, to listen to the British human rights organizations and support their role, in particular, in the light of the interest of' the government in the situation of organizations in other states.	<p>As outlined in its national report, in preparing for this 3rd UPR the UK has consulted the UK National Human Rights Institutions and civil society organisations. The UK will continue to engage with these organisations.</p> <p>The active engagement of civil society not only benefits but contributes to thriving, prosperous and secure societies.</p>	Supported	<p>The UK supports the involvement of civil society in its UN work. The UK held stakeholder events in Edinburgh, Cardiff, Belfast and London in 2018.</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND</p> <p>The Scottish Government held stakeholder engagement events in relation to the third Universal Periodic Review of the UK on 21 November 2018 and 27 November 2019.</p> <p><u>Open Government Partnership</u></p> <p>Through membership of the international Open Government Partnership (OGP), the Scottish Government is committed to working in partnership with civil society, and to collaborating to promote the values of openness, transparency and accountability across government. Openness is also one of the core values of Scotland's National Performance Framework.</p> <p>Through a process of co-creation with the public, the Scottish Government has produced two action plans, with a</p>	Supported

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>third to be produced in 2021. The second plan⁴ contains commitments around financial transparency, citizen participation in policy making, improving the sharing of data, accountability of Scotland's public services, and transparency and information sharing around UK withdrawal from the European Union. The Independent Reporting Mechanism has published reports on the Scottish Government action plans.^{5 6}</p> <p>For each commitment, government and civil society leads work in partnership to advance the work, supported by a technical working group drawn from government and civil society. Additionally, the delivery of the whole action plan is overseen by a steering committee whose membership comprises equal numbers of government (including local government) and civil society members.</p>	

⁴ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/scotlands-open-government-action-plan-2018-20/>

⁵ <https://www.opengovpartnership.org/documents/scotland-irm-report-2017/>

⁶ <https://www.opengovpartnership.org/documents/scotland-design-report-2018-2020/>

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					Scotland also owns a commitment in the UK Open Government Action Plan ⁷ which commits to sharing learning across the UK, including considering mechanisms which support the role of Civil Society in sustainable, empowering and effective ways.	
134.56 (incorporating the ICERD)	Iraq	Guarantee the applicability of the principles and doctrines of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination in its national legislation of the United Kingdom regions.	<p>The UN human rights treaties, including the ICERD, have not been incorporated into UK domestic law, and they do not require States Parties to do so.</p> <p>The UK has put in place a combination of policies and legislation to give effect to the UN human rights treaties that it has ratified. The same approach was followed by the British Overseas Territories and by the Crown Dependencies to which those treaties have been extended. The UK is confident that it is fully complying with its UN treaty obligations.</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND The 2016-17 Programme for Government</p>	Noted	<p>The UN human rights treaties, including the ICERD, do not require incorporation by State Parties into domestic law, and the UK has not done so.</p> <p>The UK remains confident that it is in full compliance with its UN treaty obligations.</p> <p>The UK Government launched its Race Disparity Unit in October 2017. The purpose of the Race Disparity Unit is to drive change by publishing authoritative data and analysis about the variances in treatment or outcome affecting people of different ethnicities.</p>	Supported

⁷ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-national-action-plan-for-open-government-2019-2021>

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
			<p>contains a commitment to integrate human rights and the Sustainable Development Goals within Scotland's National Performance Framework to help locate human rights at the centre of policy-making and delivery for government and the public sector.</p> <p><i>The Race Equality Framework for Scotland 2016-2030</i> (March 2016) was developed to advance race equality and address the barriers that prevent people from minority ethnic communities realising their potential. The Scottish Government will publish a Race Equality Action Plan later in 2017 setting out key actions to drive positive change for minority ethnic communities.</p> <p>Part 1 of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 (2014 Act) places specific duties on all Scottish Ministers to keep under consideration whether there are any steps which they could take which would or might secure better or further effect in Scotland of the CRC and to take steps identified by that consideration. The 2014 Act also requires Ministers to promote public awareness and understanding of</p>		<p>The data published on the Ethnicity Facts and Figures⁸ now covers 178 different topics across education, healthcare, criminal justice and the economy, drawn from government sources, the Census and other published official statistics.</p> <p>Where possible, data is published by the 18+1 categories of ethnic groups, and covers gender, geography, change over time, and socio-economic characteristics.</p> <p>To date, the Race Disparity Unit has worked across Whitehall and with local authorities to co-produce interventions to address disparities.</p> <p>These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • undertaking work to improve trust between police forces and the local communities that they serve, including increasing diversity in the police workforce and developing additional training • providing targeted employment 	

⁸ <https://www.ethnicity-facts-figures.service.gov.uk/>

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
			<p>children’s rights and to report every 3 years to the Scottish Parliament on relevant progress and their plans for the subsequent 3 year period. The views of children and young people are integral to the effective implementation of these duties.</p> <p>The 2014 Act also places a duty on a wide range of public authorities, including local authorities and health boards, to report every 3 years on the steps they have taken in that period to secure better or further effect of the CRC requirements.</p> <p>IN WALES The Rights of Children and Young Persons (Wales) Measure 2011 places a duty on Welsh Ministers to have due regard to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child when exercising any of their functions and to promote knowledge and understanding of the Convention.</p> <p>Welsh Ministers must give the appropriate consideration and weight to the Convention in taking their decisions, weighing up all issues relevant to the decision they are making. The Children’s Rights Scheme 2014 sets out the arrangements in place in Wales to comply with the duty to have due regard to the Convention.</p>		<p>support in twenty areas around the country with high rates of ethnic minority unemployment to boost earning potential</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> measures to drive change in tackling inequalities between ethnic groups in higher education, and the last 10 years have seen a significant increase in the rates of 18-year olds from ethnic minority groups going to university. <p>We are acting on the findings of the Public Health England Review into disparities in the risks and outcomes of COVID-19 to ensure we take the right steps to protect and minimise the risks to vulnerable groups.</p> <p>In addition, this year the Commission on Race and Ethnic Disparities was established and is examining all aspects of continuing racial and ethnic disparities in Britain. The Commission aims to set out a new, positive agenda for change - balancing the needs of individuals, communities and society, maximising opportunities and ensuring fairness for all.</p> <p>It is building on the work of the Race Disparity Unit. The Commission is</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>carrying out a deeper examination of what the causes of these disparities are and is seeking to establish what works to address them effectively.</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND: <i>Protecting Scotland's Future: the Government's Programme for Scotland 2019-20</i>⁹ reiterates the Scottish Government's commitment to developing a statutory human rights framework for Scotland. This will be taken forward by a National Taskforce for Human Rights Leadership, which will consider how to improve human rights protection for everyone in Scotland and how to bring internationally-recognised human rights into domestic law.</p> <p>IN WALES: The Welsh Government has commissioned research in order to explore the options available in taking forward the work of strengthening and advancing equality and human rights in Wales. The aim is to develop a clear understanding of the existing</p>	

⁹ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/protecting-scotlands-future-governments-programme-scotland-2019-20/>

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					legislation and statutory guidance frameworks relating to equality and human rights in Wales, and determine if, and to what extent, changes to existing legislation/statutory guidance, and/or the introduction of new legislation/statutory guidance, is required to strengthen and advance equality and human rights in Wales. The Research Project will also take account of other studies and reports such as 'Improving Outcomes: Aligning the promotion of Well-being and Equality', a report of the Well-being and Equality Working Group.	
134.57 (human rights and equality framework)	Peru	Align its norms to the human rights based approach in light of the new challenges faced.	<p>The UK domestic framework for protecting and promoting human rights and for combating discrimination remains as set out in previous UPR, that is largely based on the Human Rights Act 1998 and the Equality Act 2010, and other protections in criminal and civil law.</p> <p>The Human Rights Act 1998, which extends to the whole of the UK, gives further effect to rights contained within the ECHR. In addition, the Act makes it unlawful for a public authority to act incompatibly with the Convention rights, except in very narrow and specific circumstances. Under the Scotland Act 1998, Northern Ireland Act 1998 and the Government of Wales Act</p>	Supported	<p>The UK's position remains unchanged from 2017.</p> <p>NORTHERN IRELAND: The Northern Ireland Act 1998 contains a statutory duty on public authorities in Northern Ireland to promote equality of opportunity between: persons of different religious belief; political opinion; racial group; age; marital status or sexual orientation; men and women generally; persons with a disability and persons without; and persons with dependants and persons without.</p> <p>The most significant piece of anti-discrimination legislation, specific to</p>	Supported

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
			<p>2006, the devolved administrations cannot legislate incompatibly with the Convention rights.</p> <p>On combating discrimination, Article 14 ECHR prohibits discrimination on any ground in respect of people’s enjoyment of their rights under the ECHR. In addition, the Equality Act 2010 consolidates anti-discrimination legislation and prohibits direct and indirect discrimination, harassment, victimisation and other specified conduct, with certain exceptions permitted as lawful where appropriate. It protects people from discrimination under nine “protected characteristics”: age; disability; gender reassignment; marriage and civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; sexual orientation.</p> <p>The Equality Act 2010 also introduced, amongst other anti-discrimination provisions, a consolidated “public sector equality duty” in England, Wales and Scotland, requiring public bodies to have due regard to the need to: eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by the Act; advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share</p>		<p>the ‘protected characteristic’ of race in Northern Ireland, is the Race Relations (Northern Ireland) Order 1997 (The Order). The NI Executive’s ‘Racial Equality Strategy 2015-2025’ committed the Executive Office to undertake a review of the current Race Relations (NI) Order 1997, to ensure that it offers the same levels of protection as in Great Britain and the Republic of Ireland. This review is now underway.</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
			<p>it; and foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.</p> <p>Specific duties were introduced in England through The Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties and Public Authorities) Regulations 2017, and in Wales and Scotland through The Equality Act 2010 (Statutory Duties) (Wales) Regulations 2011 and The Equality Act 2012 (Specific Duties) (Scotland) Regulations 2012.</p> <p>In Northern Ireland, the Northern Ireland Act 1998 contains a statutory duty on public authorities in Northern Ireland to promote equality of opportunity between: persons of different religious belief; political opinion; racial group; age; marital status or sexual orientation; men and women generally; persons with a disability and persons without; and persons with dependants and persons without.</p> <p>There is additional legislation protecting specific rights or classes of rights, for example: the Data Protection Act 1998 (for the whole of the UK); the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (in England, Wales and Northern Ireland) and the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (in Scotland) strengthen information rights; the</p>			

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
			Gender Recognition Act 2004 (legally recognising transsexual people in their acquired gender); Civil Partnership Act 2004 (legally recognising the relationship between two people of the same sex); Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Act 2013 and Marriage and Civil Partnership (Scotland) Act 2014 (legalising the marriage of same sex couples respectively in England and Wales, and in Scotland).			
134.58 (incorporating the ICERD)	Greece	Further incorporate the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination into domestic law.	See the response to 134.56.	Noted	See the response to 134.56.	Noted
134.59 (coordinating the implementation of the CRC)	Kazakhstan	Establish effective coordination and monitoring structures to ensure Convention on the Rights of the Child implementation across national and local governments.	<p>There are no plans to introduce a centralised mechanism to coordinate the implementation of the CRC across the UK and, where applicable, the Overseas Territories and the Crown Dependencies. Such a mechanism would raise constitutional issues, in particular in relation to devolved matters, and to the relationship between the UK and the Crown Dependencies and Overseas Territories.</p> <p>See also the response to 134.56: <i>The UN human rights treaties, including the ICERD, have not been incorporated into UK domestic law, and they do not require States</i></p>	Noted	<p>2017 rationale still stands.</p> <p>There is regular contact between all four UK administrations and the UK's Crown Dependencies to share progress and best practice regarding children's rights.</p> <p>Reporting to the UN covers the whole UK, its Crown Dependencies and Overseas Territories.</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND: The Children's Rights Unit liaises with</p>	Noted

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
			<p><i>Parties to do so.</i></p> <p><i>The UK has put in place a combination of policies and legislation to give effect to the UN human rights treaties that it has ratified. The same approach was followed by the British Overseas Territories and by the Crown Dependencies to which those treaties have been extended. The UK is confident that it is fully complying with its UN treaty obligations.</i></p>		<p>the UK Government and the other devolved administrations on relevant UK-wide matters concerning the UNCRC and to share best practice. The Children’s Rights Unit also works closely with the Scottish Government Human Rights Policy Unit, which coordinates Scottish Government participation in UK engagement with international monitoring mechanisms in relation to human rights treaties that have been ratified by the UK Government.</p> <p>The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (Incorporation) (Scotland) Bill was introduced to the Scottish Parliament on 1 September 2020. The Bill seeks to incorporate the UNCRC fully and directly into Scots law, to the maximum extent possible within the Scottish Parliament’s powers.</p> <p>The Bill will require the Scottish Government to lay a Children’s Rights Scheme before the Scottish Parliament setting out arrangements for fulfilling the duty not to act incompatibly with the “UNCRC requirements” (that is, those provisions of the UNCRC that will be incorporated by the Bill). The Bill requires Scottish Ministers to lay the Scheme annually and to report on</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					the actions taken and future plans for children’s rights. The Bill replaces the reporting requirement in section 2 of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 on listed public authorities and requires them to report every three years on the steps they have taken to fulfil the compatibility duty. The Bill will also place the Child Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment (CRWIA) on a statutory footing, requiring the Scottish Ministers to prepare a CRWIA for most legislation and decisions of a strategic nature relating to the rights and wellbeing of children, as Ministers consider appropriate. Provisions in the Bill will also require the Scottish Ministers to include in the proposed Children’s Rights Scheme a statement setting out the circumstances in which it would be appropriate for them to prepare a CRWIA.	
134.60 (incorporating the CRC)	Slovakia	Integrate fully the principles and provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child into its domestic law.	See the response to 134.56.	Noted	The UK has put in place a combination of policies and legislation to give effect to the UN human rights treaties that it has ratified. The same approach was followed by the British Overseas Territories and by the Crown Dependencies to which those treaties have been extended. The UK is confident that it is fully complying	Noted

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>with its UN treaty obligations.</p> <p>The UK is confident that the existing laws and commitments adequately safeguard the rights of children in the UK. New amendments are therefore not necessary and may create additional burdens on individuals and public bodies.</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND: See the responses to recommendations 134.59, 134.63 and 134.65.</p>	
134.61 (incorporating the ICERD)	Uganda	Incorporate the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination into the domestic law to ensure direct and full application of the principles and provisions of the Convention.	See the response to 134.56.	Noted	See the response to 134.56.	Noted
134.62 (compliance with international human rights law, including on counter-terrorism)	Botswana	Ensure that all laws and policies adopted are in conformity with international human rights law and standards, including on the fight against terrorism.	<p>See the response to 134.57.</p> <p>With regard to the fight against terrorism, the UK Government continues to consider that its terrorism legislation and measures comply with the UK's international human rights obligations.</p>	Supported	<p>The UK position remains generally as in 2017. See the response to 134.57.</p> <p>Legislation is closely scrutinised by the UK Parliament during its passage, and once in force can be kept under scrutiny by Parliamentary Committees including the Joint Committee on</p>	Supported

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
			<p>Legislation is closely scrutinised by the UK Parliament during its passage, and once in force can be kept under scrutiny by Parliamentary Committees including the Joint Committee on Human Rights.</p> <p>It is unlawful for a public authority to act in a way that violates or is incompatible with the Convention rights, except in very narrow and specific circumstances.</p> <p>The Human Rights Act 1998 requires that all legislation must be interpreted and given effect, as far as possible, in accordance with the Convention rights. Where this is not possible, the courts can issue a 'declaration of incompatibility' where primary legislation is causing the incompatibility, and they can quash other legislation.</p> <p>Terrorism legislation is regularly reviewed by the Independent Reviewer of Terrorism Legislation, who can make recommendations to the UK Government. Max Hill QC was appointed as the new Independent Reviewer on 1 March 2017, replacing David Anderson QC.</p> <p>In his most recent report on the operation of the core Terrorism Acts, published in December 2016, the then Independent Reviewer (David Anderson QC) reported</p>		<p>Human Rights.</p> <p>It is unlawful for a public authority to act in a way that violates or is incompatible with the Convention rights, except in very narrow and specific circumstances.</p> <p>The Human Rights Act 1998 requires that all legislation must be interpreted and given effect, as far as possible, in accordance with the Convention rights. Where this is not possible, the courts can issue a 'declaration of incompatibility' where primary legislation is causing the incompatibility, and they can quash other legislation.</p> <p>With regard to the fight against terrorism, the UK Government continues to consider that its terrorism legislation and measures comply with the UK's international human rights obligations.</p> <p>Terrorism legislation is regularly reviewed by the Independent Reviewer of Terrorism Legislation, who can make recommendations to the UK Government. Jonathan Hall QC was appointed as the new Independent</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
			that “ <i>the overall picture seems to me one of appropriately strong laws, responsibly implemented and keenly scrutinised by Parliament and by the courts</i> ”. He also observed that “ <i>ECtHR decisions since 2011 have tended to uphold elements of UK law applicable to terrorism as consistent with European human rights standards</i> ”.		Reviewer of Terrorism Legislation in May 2019, replacing Max Hill QC.	
134.63 (compliance with international human rights law)	Serbia	Continue to be engaged in open and inclusive public debates on ensuring the most effective domestic implementation of international and regional human rights standards, with full account of universally guaranteed rights and freedoms.	See the response to 134.62.	Supported	The UK remains committed to open and inclusive public debate on the implementation of rights standards. By way of recent example, in the field of children’s rights, the UK has created an Action Group with the Children’s Rights Alliance for England which brings together government policy officials and a range of civil society organisations to consider how children’s rights can be better realised. The group helped to develop children’s rights training and a Child Rights Impact Assessment template for civil servants. The Group has been meeting since January 2017.	Supported

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>IN SCOTLAND: A public consultation¹⁰ seeking views on the model of incorporation that would deliver the best outcomes for children, young people and families in Scotland ran from 22 May to 28 August 2019. The consultation document made clear the Scottish Ministers' intention to incorporate the UNCRC either directly or through a Scottish suite of children's rights. The consultation was extended by two weeks past the intended closing date to enable greater participation by children and young people. A total of 162 consultation responses were received (129 organisations and 33 individuals) and have been published. Independent analysis of the responses was published on 20 November 2019, the 30th Anniversary of the UNCRC.¹¹ To complement the public consultation, official and ministerial meetings were held over the summer of 2019, engaging over 180 children and young people across seven Scottish Government-funded events and</p>	

¹⁰ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/childrens-rights-consultation-incorporating-uncrc-rights-child-domestic-law-scotland/>

¹¹ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/uncrc-consultation-analysis-report/>

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>meetings with 47 organisations representing a range of sectors. The Scottish Government also convened a short-life UNCRC Working Group that included representatives from UNICEF, Together (Scottish Alliance for Children’s Rights), academics, parenting organisations, the Scottish Youth Parliament, NHS, Police Scotland, COSLA, the Law Society of Scotland and the Faculty of Advocates. The Group, which met eight times between 25 June 2019 and 24 February 2020, considered the policy, practice and legislative implications of UNCRC incorporation, using the Scottish Government’s consultation document on “incorporating the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child into our domestic law in Scotland” as the framework for discussions. The final Report of the Group includes the majority views expressed by members, including that there should be a Scottish Bill to incorporate the UNCRC fully and directly into Scots law, as far as possible within the powers of the Scottish Parliament. The Scottish Government is committed to implementing all of the majority views expressed by the Group, either through</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>the Bill itself, within the context of the implementation programme in support of the Bill, or through other policy and legislation.</p> <p>Knowledge and understanding of children’s rights, and how to act on them, are fundamental to embedding children’s rights fully across Scottish society. The Scottish Ministers have committed to develop - through co-production - an ambitious programme to raise awareness and understanding of children’s rights across all sectors of society in Scotland, including children and young people themselves. The Scottish Government is also developing a strategic approach to participation, which will aim to mainstream the participation of children and young people in decision-making across Scottish society. The first annual report on progress made in taking forward these actions was published on 20 November 2019. The second annual report will be published shortly.</p>	
134.64 (incorporating the ICERD)	Kyrgyzstan	Ensure that the principles and provisions of the International Convention on the Elimination of All	See the response to 134.56.	Noted	See the response to 134.56.	Noted

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
		Forms of Racial Discrimination are directly and fully applicable under domestic law in all territories of the United Kingdom.				
134.65 (incorporating the CRC)	Chile	Speed up the adjustment of national legislation to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, both at State and autonomous regions levels.	See the responses to 134.56 and 134.59.	Noted	The UK position remains unchanged from 2017. IN SCOTLAND: See also the responses to recommendations 134.59 and 134.63. The UNCRC (Incorporation) (Scotland) Bill was introduced to the Scottish Parliament on 1 September 2020. The Equalities and Human Rights Committee were receiving views on the Bill until 16 October, with a later deadline of 20 November for children and young people. The Bill will be subject to scrutiny and parliamentary debate before it becomes law. If passed, the Bill will deliver a fundamental shift in the way children's rights are respected, protected and fulfilled in Scotland. The Bill will deliver a proactive culture of everyday accountability for children's rights across public services in Scotland. The Bill seeks to incorporate the UNCRC into domestic law to the	Noted

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>maximum extent possible within the powers of the Scottish Parliament. The Bill will also make provision to allow incorporation of those provisions of the Convention currently beyond devolved powers into Scotland’s domestic law if the powers of the Scottish Parliament change in the future.</p> <p>Some parts of the UNCRC that relate to reserved matters cannot be incorporated by the Scottish Parliament. However, the view is that a vast majority of the UNCRC’s provisions can be incorporated in law in Scotland. That will ensure that the rights contained in the UNCRC are afforded the highest protection and respect possible within the current constitutional settlement. Public authorities, including health boards and councils – and the Scottish Government itself – will be legally obliged to respect children’s rights. Since the Bill was introduced, the Scottish Government has continued to engage with a range of organisations including the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA) and local authorities, child protection committees, justice and courts partners, social work bodies, and children’s rights stakeholders to explore the</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>implications of the Bill. This engagement will support the development of the implementation programme, including co-production of guidance and training materials so that it best meets the needs of practitioners, and the rights of the children and young people they serve.</p> <p>Currently, Part 1 of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 (CYP Act) places specific duties on Scottish Ministers to keep under consideration whether there are any steps which they could take which would or might secure better or further effect in Scotland of the UNCRC requirements (as defined in that Act) and, if appropriate, to take steps identified by that consideration. The CYP Act further specifies that, in complying with these duties, Ministers must “take such account as they consider appropriate of any relevant views of children of which the Scottish Ministers are aware”.</p> <p>The Child Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment (CRWIA), introduced in June 2015, aims to ensure that all areas of the Scottish Government consider the possible direct and indirect impacts of proposed policies and legislation on the rights</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>and wellbeing of children and young people. The CRWIA is promoted across the Scottish Government as a key tool in the development of policy and guidance has been published on the Scottish Government website.¹² The views of children and young people are integral to the CRWIA process. The UNCRC (Incorporation) (Scotland) Bill will place the CRWIA on a statutory footing, requiring the Scottish Ministers to prepare a CRWIA for most new legislation and decisions of a strategic nature relating to the rights and wellbeing of children, as Ministers consider appropriate.</p> <p>The Scottish Ministers are continuing to support progress on specific rights issues, including the implementation of the Children (Scotland) Act 2020, which will improve the experiences of children and young people in child contact and residence cases, the Age of Criminal Responsibility (Scotland) Act 2019, which raises the age of criminal responsibility from 8 to 12 years, and the Children (Equal Protection from Assault) (Scotland) Act 2019, which</p>	

¹² <https://www.gov.scot/publications/childrens-rights-wellbeing-impact-assessments-crwia-guidance/>

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					removes the legal defence that allows parents to physically punish their children. <i>Progressing the Human Rights of Children in Scotland: An Action Plan 2018-2021 - Progress Report 2019</i> ¹³ provides a list of examples of specific policies and initiatives that are helping to take forward the rights of children in Scotland. The second annual report will be published shortly.	
134.66 (Bill of Rights)	Haiti	Ensure the inclusion of all stakeholders in the drafting and adoption of the British Bill of Rights, in particular representatives of the poor, minorities and vulnerable groups.	The Human Rights Act 1998 gives further effect to rights contained within the ECHR, and this UK Government has stated that the UK will remain party to the ECHR for the duration of this Parliament. The UK Government will consider further the human rights legal framework when the process of leaving the EU concludes, and consult fully on any proposals in the full knowledge of the new constitutional landscape that this will create.	Noted	The UK has no current plans to repeal the Human Rights Act 1998. As set out in the 2019 manifesto, we have committed to updating the Human Rights Act and ensuring there is a proper balance between the rights of individuals and an effective government. The Government has established an independent panel to review this. The Human Rights Act 1998 gives further effect to rights contained within the ECHR, and the UK Government remains committed to the ECHR.	Noted
134.67 (Bill of	Ireland	Provide reassurance	See the response to 134.66.	Noted	See the response to 134.66	Noted

¹³ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/progressing-human-rights-children-scotland-action-plan-2018-2021-update-2019/>

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
Rights)		that any proposed British Bill of Rights would complement rather than replace the incorporation of the European Convention on Human Rights in Northern Ireland law and acknowledging this is a primary matter for the Northern Ireland Executive and Assembly -that a Bill of Rights for Northern Ireland to reflect the particular circumstances of Northern Ireland should be pursued to provide continuity, clarity and consensus on the legal framework for human rights there.			<p>The Government is firmly committed to upholding the Belfast Agreement in all its parts, including its successor agreements and the institutions it established, which includes provision for a Bill of Rights in Northern Ireland. Consensus, including between the Northern Ireland parties, is needed before any agreement can be reached on what a Bill of Rights should include for Northern Ireland. This approach was always envisaged in the Belfast ('Good Friday') Agreement.</p> <p>The New Decade, New Approach Agreement on the restoration of devolved government in Northern Ireland contained a commitment to establish an Ad-Hoc Assembly Committee to consider the creation of a Bill of Rights that is faithful to the stated intention of the 1998 Belfast (Good Friday) Agreement. The work of the Committee is ongoing.</p>	
134.68 (Bill of Rights)	Kazakhstan	Ensure that the legislative changes, if adopted, keep the same level of human rights protection as provided by the Human Rights Act, as	See the response to 134.66.	Noted	<p>See the response to 134.66.</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND: The Scottish Government is committed to defending existing human rights safeguards and is taking action to secure the progressive implementation</p>	Noted

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
		advised by the High Commissioner for Human Rights and the United Nations Treaty Bodies.			of all human rights in Scotland. A National Taskforce for Human Rights Leadership has been established to consider the recommendations made by the Advisory Group on Human Rights Leadership. The Taskforce will develop a new statutory framework to improve human rights protection for everyone in Scotland.	
134.69 (Bill of Rights)	Kenya	Maintain the legal effects, scope and effectiveness of the Human rights Act in the adoption of new legislation.	See the response to 134.66.	Noted	See the response to 134.66. IN SCOTLAND: See the responses to recommendations 134.66 and 134.68.	Noted
134.70 (Bill of Rights)	Mexico	Ensure that any legislative modification, such as the enactment of the Bill of Rights maintain the level of protection that guarantees the current Human Rights Act.	See the response to 134.66.	Noted	See the response to 134.66. IN SCOTLAND: See the responses to recommendations 134.66 and 134.68.	Noted
134.71 (Bill of Rights)	Namibia	Ensure that the proposed new Bill of Rights to replace the Human Rights Act, if adopted, does not remove or weaken any human rights	See the response to 134.66.	Noted	See the response to 134.66. IN SCOTLAND: See the responses to recommendations 134.66 and 134.68.	Noted

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
		protection granted under the current Act.				
134.72 (Bill of Rights)	Portugal	Take all necessary steps to prevent the new British Bill of Rights from leading to a decreased level of human rights protection.	See the response to 134.66.	Noted	See the response to 134.66. IN SCOTLAND: See the responses to recommendations 134.66 and 134.68.	Noted
134.73 (Bill of Rights)	Switzerland	Ensure that any possible reform of the 1998 Human Rights Act has no impact on the scope of protection or the access to the remedies under the European Convention of Human Rights.	See the response to 134.66.	Noted	See the response to 134.66. IN SCOTLAND: See the responses to recommendations 134.66 and 134.68.	Noted
134.74 (Bill of Rights)	Thailand	Continue its commitment to international human rights obligations and standards and ensure that the new bill of rights is drafted through broad-based consultations and embraces no less protection of human rights.	See the response to 134.66.	Noted	See the response to 134.66. IN SCOTLAND: See the responses to recommendations 134.66 and 134.68.	Noted
134.75 (Bill of Rights)	Ukraine	Make sure that, in case the proposals for	See the response to 134.66.	Noted	See the response to 134.66.	Noted

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
		a British Bill of Rights are realized, the current level of human rights protection provided by the Human Rights Act of 1998 is maintained and improved.			IN SCOTLAND: See the responses to recommendations 134.66 and 134.68.	
134.76 (Bill of Rights)	Uzbekistan	Carry out extensive consultations with civil society related to the repeal of the 1998 Human Rights Act. In view of the process of leaving the European Union, ensure that any new legislation aims at strengthening human rights in the entire jurisdictions of the country.	See the response to 134.66.	Noted	See the response to 134.66. IN SCOTLAND: See the responses to recommendations 134.66 and 134.68.	Noted
134.77 (Bill of Rights)	Belarus	Ensure that changes in the national legislation affecting the Human Rights Act do not result in weakening human rights protection mechanisms in the country.	See the response to 134.66.	Noted	See the response to 134.66. IN SCOTLAND: See the responses to recommendations 134.66 and 134.68.	Noted
134.78 (Bill of Rights)	France	In the context of the withdrawal from the	See the response to 134.66.	Noted	See the response to 134.76	Noted

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
		European Union, ensure that human rights achievements are preserved in the future framework of human rights protection in the United Kingdom and the future status of European citizens residing in the United Kingdom.			IN SCOTLAND: See the responses to recommendations 134.66 and 134.68.	
134.79 (national human rights action plan)	Sudan	Adopt national action plan on human rights.	<p>The UK Government has no plans to establish a national human rights action plan. It prefers to drive forward work in specific areas, such as the UK Government's work on tackling modern slavery, and on business and human rights.</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND:</p> <p>Scotland's National Action Plan for Human Rights ran from 2013 to 2017. The Scottish Government is discussing with a range of partners across Scottish society, including the Scottish Human Rights Commission, how best to coordinate activity aimed at ensuring that everybody in Scotland is able to live a life of human dignity.</p>	Noted	<p>The UK position remains unchanged from 2017.</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND: Scotland's National Action Plan for Human Rights (SNAP) was a co-designed and co-produced initiative which ran from 2013 to 2017. SNAP expressed a shared vision for a Scotland where every member of society is able to live with human dignity through the implementation of internationally-recognised human rights. SNAP was based around five Human Rights Action Groups which addressed the challenges of: building a human rights culture in Scotland; addressing the need for action on poverty and standard of living; promoting rights in the field of health</p>	Noted

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					and social care; securing access to justice for all; and contributing to a better world through international action. An independent evaluation of SNAP can be accessed through the SNAP website. ¹⁴ The Scottish Human Rights Commission is coordinating the development of a second phase of SNAP along with representatives from civil society and the public sector.	
134.80 (business and human rights)	State of Palestine	Intensify its efforts to oversight over British companies operating abroad with regard to any negative impact of their activities on the enjoyment of human rights, particularly in conflict areas, which includes situations of foreign occupation, where there are heightened risks of	The UK was the first country to produce a National Action Plan on business and human rights; it was also the first to update it (the updated plan was published on the UK Government's portal on 12 May 2016). The UK has taken concrete measures to promote business and human rights, including through the Modern Slavery Act 2015, the Companies Act 2006, and guidance to specific sectors. The UK also funds business and human rights projects around the world, and has helped – and	Supported	The UK position remains generally as in 2017, however, following an Independent Review of the Modern Slavery Act the Government consulted on measures to amend the transparency in supply chains provisions in the Act. IN SCOTLAND: The Scottish Government is working with the Scottish Human Rights Commission, enterprise agencies and other partners to develop a National	Supported

¹⁴ <http://www.snaprights.info/>

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
		human rights abuses.	<p>continues to help - other countries to develop Action Plans.</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND: The Scottish Government, Scottish Human Rights Commission and other partners are committed to developing a coordinated plan of action in Scotland to give effect to the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, building on the UK's Action Plan. A national baseline assessment was published in October 2016. Further engagement activity will take place around this evidence base in 2017, from which a process to develop a national action plan will be initiated.</p> <p>Initiatives in Scotland to promote business and human rights include: the Labour Market Strategy, the Fair Work Convention and the Scottish Business Pledge. The Scottish Government also promotes the Living Wage, including through statutory guidance under the Procurement Reform (Scotland) Act 2014 on how to address Fair Work practices when selecting tenderers and awarding contracts.</p>		<p>Action Plan to implement the UNGPs in Scotland.¹⁵</p> <p>The Scottish Government has introduced human rights due diligence guidance to ensure that investment and support agreements are made with regard to the human rights records of companies involved.¹⁶</p>	

¹⁵ <http://www.snaprights.info/action-areas/better-world/business-and-human-rights>

¹⁶ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/due-diligence-checks-good-practice-guidance/>

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
			A Trafficking and Exploitation Strategy was published on 30 May 2017. This contains an action to develop guidance for businesses in Scotland around trafficking and exploitation and other human rights issues in their supply chains.			
134.81 (combating discrimination and inequality)	Georgia	Further reinforce measures to combat all forms of discrimination and inequality.	See the response to 134.57.	Supported	See response to 134.57 (UK position 2017) in relation to the Equality Act 2010 IN SCOTLAND: The Equality Act 2010 places a duty (known as the public sector equality duty, or PSED) on public authorities to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and promote good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not. The 2010 Act is largely reserved to the UK Government, and the Scottish Parliament's powers are limited. However, it has imposed specific reporting duties on Scottish public authorities to enable the better	Supported

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					performance of the public sector equality duty. ¹⁷	
134.82 (combating discrimination ; immigration detention)	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Exert all its efforts, in law and practice, to combat racism, xenophobia and Islamophobia, and to eliminate all forms of discrimination against migrants, and to avoid subjecting asylum seekers and stateless persons to prolonged and/or repeat unlawful detention.	For an overview of the human rights and equality framework, see the response to 134.57. On combating hate crime and hate speech, see the response to 134.84. On immigration detention, see the response to 134.27. On stateless persons, see the response to 134.53.	Noted	The UK position remains unchanged from 2017. IN SCOTLAND: Scotland is determined to play its part in eradicating racism, inequality and injustice – and in building a better, fairer world. In March 2016, the Scottish Government published a <i>Race Equality Framework</i> , ¹⁸ which sets out long-term goals. It also appointed an Independent Race Equality Adviser to provide strategic independent expertise, insight and advice to strengthen the focus on tackling racism and discrimination. In December 2017, the Scottish Government published a <i>Race Equality Action Plan</i> ¹⁹ outlining more than 120 actions to be taken in the current parliamentary session to secure better outcomes for minority ethnic communities in Scotland.	Noted

¹⁷ <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2012/162/contents/made>

¹⁸ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/race-equality-framework-scotland-2016-2030/>

¹⁹ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/fairer-scotland-race-equality-action-plan-2017-2021-highlight-report/>

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					See the response to recommendation 134.99.	
134.83 (combating discrimination and inequality)	Paraguay	Ensure the equality and non-discrimination in the current legislation through a due compliance with measures to fight against prejudices, xenophobia and the violence against women and girls.	For an overview of the human rights and equality framework, see the response to 134.57. On combating hate speech and hate crime, see the responses to 134.84 and 134.100. On combating VAWG, see the response to 134.180.	Supported	See response to 134.57 (UK position 2017) in relation to the Equality Framework IN SCOTLAND: See the responses to recommendations 134.82, 134.99, 134.105, 134.106 and 134.180.	Supported
134.84 (combating hate speech)	Spain	Dedicate more resources to fight against negative stereotypes in the media, against the most affected minority groups (LGBTI, Gypsies, Muslims, refugees and persons granted asylum.	The UK Government has a strong legislative framework in place to tackle hate crime, convict those who incite hatred, whilst also protecting free speech. This includes criminal offences of inciting hatred on the grounds of race, religion and sexual orientation, specific racially (includes nationality) and religiously aggravated offences and enhanced sentencing for crimes that are motivated by the race, religion, sexual orientation, disability or transgender identity of the victim. The UK also established two cross party All Parliamentary Groups, one focusing on antisemitism and one on anti-Muslim hatred. The UK Government supported the anti-	Supported	The UK Government works across the public, private and voluntary sectors to improve the representation of LGBT people in public life, championing role models and giving people the confidence to be themselves in public. The UK Government continues to have a presence at Pride events across the country, allowing us to hear directly from LGBT people. The UK Government will continue to work with the media and with schools to challenge gender stereotypes and will also and will also develop the evidence on the cause and impact of gender norms. The UK Government has a strong legislative framework in place to tackle	Supported

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
			<p>Muslim hatred working group to work with the Society of Editors and more recently with the Independent Press Standards Organisation to develop training for editors and journalists to tackle the negative portrayal of Muslims in the media including a reliable glossary of terms regarding Islam and British Muslims to share with organisations interested in religious literacy.</p> <p>The UK Government contributes, through its officials and the Community Security Trust, to the International Cyber-Hate Working Group collaborating with Internet industry leaders to identify opportunities to reduce the harm caused by hate material on the Internet, while protecting the right to freedom of speech. The Working Group published Best Practices for Responding to Cyberhate, in cooperation with the social networks in 2014.</p> <p>The True Vision hate crime reporting website has dedicated sections on reporting homophobic and transphobic hate crime.</p> <p>The UK Government also put in place a number of measures to address the reporting of transphobic motivated crimes. These have included the piloting of two community demonstration projects. The first one is the</p>		<p>hate crime, including convicting those who incite hatred, whilst also protecting free speech.</p> <p>This includes criminal offences of inciting hatred on the grounds of race, religion and sexual orientation, specific racially (includes nationality, ethnicity and colour) and religiously aggravated offences and enhanced sentencing for crimes that are motivated by or demonstrate hostility to the race, religion, sexual orientation, disability or transgender identity of the victim.</p> <p>The UK Government Refreshed Hate Crime Action Plan (October 2018) includes measures to improve the awareness and skills of police officers and staff to respond to the needs of hate crime victims – including LGBT victims.</p> <p>The UK government does not intervene in what the press can and cannot publish. The press is subject to independent self-regulation. The UK Government supported work with the Society of Editors and more recently is working with the Independent Press Standards Organisation to develop</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
			<p>development of a pilot to support young transgender people to challenge negative hate crime narratives online and encourage reporting where they see transphobic abuse, and the second one is the development of an online LGBT hate crime reporting portal managed by the LGBT organisation Galop.</p> <p>The Crown Prosecution Service also developed three hate crime school packs (LGBT, Race & Religion, and Disability). These free to download resources for schools encourage people to report hate crimes against them, and include a series of exercises to assist perpetrators to understand the potential consequences of this behaviour on their victims as well as themselves.</p>		<p>guidance for editors and journalists to tackle the negative portrayal of Muslims in the media including a reliable glossary of terms regarding Islam and British Muslims to share with organisations interested in religious literacy.</p> <p>In autumn 2018 and spring 2019 the UK Government released a communications campaign to increase public awareness of what constitutes hate crime and condemn such behaviour.</p> <p>The UK Government contributes, through its officials and the Community Security Trust, to the International Cyber-Hate Working Group collaborating with Internet industry leaders to identify opportunities to reduce the harm caused by hate material on the Internet, while protecting the right to freedom of speech. The Working Group published Best Practices for Responding to Cyberhate, in cooperation with the social networks in 2014.</p> <p>The True Vision hate crime reporting website has dedicated sections on reporting homophobic and transphobic</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>hate crime.</p> <p>The UK Government also put in place a number of measures to increase the reporting of transphobic motivated crimes. These have included the piloting of two community demonstration projects. The first one is the development of a pilot to support young transgender people to challenge negative hate crime narratives online and encourage reporting where they see transphobic abuse, and the second one is the development of an online LGBT hate crime reporting portal managed by the LGBT organisation Galop.</p> <p>Steps to improve the response to hate crimes affecting LGBT people have been set out in the 2018 LGBT actions plan, published by the Government Equalities Office.</p> <p>The Crown Prosecution Service also developed three hate crime school packs (LGBT, Race & Religion, and Disability). These free to download resources for schools encourage people to report hate crimes against them and include a series of exercises to assist perpetrators to understand the potential consequences of this behaviour on their</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					victims as well as themselves. IN SCOTLAND: The Scottish Government is engaging with the Scottish Parliament Cross Party Group on Tackling Islamophobia, which has recently published media guidelines to help tackle Islamophobia.	
134.85 (combating hate speech)	Malaysia	Tackle advocacy of religious hatred including that which constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence in political discourse and in the media.	See the response to 134.84.	Supported	See the response to 134.84 IN SCOTLAND: See the responses to recommendations 134.99 and 134.112.	Supported
134.86 (freedom of the press)	Russian Federation	Stop the pressure on mass media, including by closing their bank accounts.	The UK Government upholds freedom of expression which was given further effect in domestic law through the Human Rights Act 1998. The UK Government is unclear about which media's bank accounts it is alleged to have closed.	Noted	The UK is committed to a free and independent media.	Noted
134.87 (combating discrimination and inequality)	United States of America	Review and strengthen current policies and initiatives to combat societal discrimination against members of racial, religious and ethnic	For an overview of the human rights and equality framework, see the response to 134.57. On combating hate speech and hate crime, see the responses to 134.84 and 134.100.	Supported	The UK position remains unchanged from 2017. See response to 137.57 and 134.84 IN SCOTLAND: See the response to recommendation	Supported

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
		minority groups.			134.82. The Scottish Government formally adopted the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance’s definition of anti-Semitism in June 2017. This reflects the value the Scottish Government places on tackling anti-Semitism and on ensuring people in Scotland feel valued and have a sense of belonging. The Scottish Government welcomes the ongoing work of the Scottish Parliament Cross Party Group on Tackling Islamophobia’s first inquiry into Islamophobia in Scotland. On 10 June Parliament held a debate and passed a motion in support of “Showing solidarity with anti-racism in response to the killing of George Floyd.	
134.88 (combating discrimination ; incorporating the ICERD)	China	Take further measures to combat racism and xenophobia and incorporate ICERD into domestic laws.	For an overview of the human rights and equality framework, see the response to 134.57. On the incorporation of the ICERD, see the response to 134.56.	Noted	The UK position remains unchanged from 2017. IN SCOTLAND: See the responses to recommendations 134.56 and 134.82.	Noted
134.89 (strategy on Gypsy, Traveller and	Guatemala	Elaborate a general strategy, in consultation with members of the	The UK has a strong and well-established legal framework which protects all individuals, including Gypsies, Travellers and Roma against racial and other forms of	Noted	The UK position remains unchanged from 2017 IN SCOTLAND:	Noted

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
Roma)		Gypsy, Traveller and Roma communities, to ensure a systematic and coherent approach to address the problems that such communities continue to face, including discrimination and stigmatisation.	<p>discrimination and hate crime. See the response to 134.57.</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND</p> <p>Following direct engagement with members of the Gypsy/Traveller community in 2017, the Scottish Government intends to publish a Gypsy/Traveller Strategic Programme of Work document this Autumn. The document will bring together relevant policies across government that help secure improved outcomes for Gypsy/Travellers.</p> <p>IN WALES</p> <p>Travelling to a Better Future: A Gypsy and Traveller Framework for Action and Delivery Plan sets out policy direction for the Welsh Government. This framework focuses on several key policy areas including accommodation, health, education, participation and planning.</p>		<p>In Scotland, a Ministerial Working Group on Gypsy/Travellers was set up in February 2018 to develop <i>'innovative solutions to seemingly intractable problems'</i>, and to do so at an accelerated rate. The group is composed of ministers with responsibility for the key areas of accommodation (housing and planning), education, health, and employment, working alongside COSLA.</p> <p><i>Improving the Lives of Scotland's Gypsy/Travellers 2019-2021</i> (October 2019)²⁰ is a joint Scottish Government/COSLA action plan, which sets out agreed actions across local and national government in Scotland to make meaningful progress. A Covid19 Response Impact Group was also set up in March, in response to the global pandemic. It is made up of SG and COSLA officials and third sector partners and has focused on meeting the specific needs of the G/T community throughout the problem. They continue to meet on a bi-weekly basis going forwards.</p>	

²⁰ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/improving-lives-scotlands-gypsy-travellers-2019-2021/>

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>IN WALES: The Welsh Government funds the Travelling Ahead project at TGP Cymru to deliver advice and advocacy support to Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities. This funding will continue until 31 September 2021. In November 2019 all Local Authorities in Wales were asked to provide an update on progress against their extant Gypsy Traveller Accommodation Assessments. All Local Authorities have provided an update and scrutiny of their responses took place in February and March of 2020.</p>	
134.90 (combating discrimination and inequality)	Indonesia	Ensure that the Government of the United Kingdom take all necessary steps to prevent all kinds of discrimination directed at minorities in the community namely the Roma community.	<p>See the response to 134.57.</p> <p>There have been three separate cases which established specific groups as distinct ethnic groups under domestic discrimination law. Although all three were brought under the provisions in the Race Relations Act 1976, the Equality Act 2010 replicates those provisions so the case law remains extant.</p> <p>While this means that three distinct groups – Romany Gypsies, Irish Travellers and Scottish Gypsy Travellers – have legal protection, it is now generally accepted that the protections of domestic race discrimination legislation are likely to apply</p>	Supported	<p>The UK position remains unchanged from 2017.</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND: See the responses to recommendations 134.82 and 134.89.</p>	Supported

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
			equally to other Gypsy, Roma and Traveller groups.			
134.91 (strategy on Gypsy, Traveller and Roma)	Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela	That the State and devolved governments collaborate in the approval of an integration strategy for Gypsies, Travellers and Roma people in all the United Kingdom.	See the response to 134.89.	Noted	The UK position remains unchanged from 2017. IN SCOTLAND: See the responses to recommendations 134.82 and 134.89.	Noted
134.92 (combating discrimination and inequality)	Lebanon	Strengthening and activating existing laws and legislations in the field of combating discrimination and all forms of racism and to make further efforts to combat discrimination against gypsies, nomads and Roma.	See the responses to 134.57 and 134.90.	Supported	The UK position remains unchanged from 2017. IN SCOTLAND: See the responses to recommendations 134.82 and 134.89.	Supported
134.93 (action plan for People of African Descent)	Sierra Leone	Develop a plan of action to implement the activities of the Decade of People of African Descent, which would, inter alia, address concerns of racial profiling of	The UK has a strong and well-established legal framework which protects all individuals, including people of African descent, against racial and other forms of discrimination and hate crime. See the response to 134.57.	Noted	The UK's position remains unchanged from 2017. See the response to 134.56 and 134.57. IN SCOTLAND: The Scottish Government has worked with community organisations to develop programmes of work to mark	Noted

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
		people of African Descent.			the Decade of People of African Descent.	
134.94 (strategy on ethnic minorities)	Sierra Leone	Develop a comprehensive strategy to address inequalities experienced by ethnic minorities.	The UK has a strong and well-established legal framework which protects all individuals, including ethnic minorities, against racial and other forms of discrimination and hate crime. See the response to 134.57.	Noted	See the response to 134.56 IN SCOTLAND: See the response to recommendation 134.82.	Noted
134.95 (combating discrimination and inequality)	Kazakhstan	Take effective measures to address inequalities experienced by ethnic minority groups and combat discrimination.	See the response to 134.57.	Supported	See the response to 134.56 IN SCOTLAND: See the response to recommendation 134.82.	Supported
134.96 (combating discrimination and inequality)	Republic of Korea	Adopt comprehensive anti-discrimination measures, to promote equal political, social and economic rights of women of ethnic minorities.	See the response to 134.57.	Supported	For information related to the elimination of racial discrimination in line with UK ICERD commitments, please see the response to 134.56. In 2018/19, the Government consulted on options for exploring possibilities for employer-level ethnicity pay reporting. Following the consultation, Government met with businesses and representative organisations to understand the barriers to reporting and explore what information could be published to allow for meaningful action to be taken.	Supported

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>The Government is continuing to analyse this data. We will respond to the Ethnicity Pay Reporting consultation as soon as we can.</p> <p>On 3 July 2019 the UK Government published '<i>Gender equality at every stage: a roadmap for change</i>', which sets out plans to address the persistent gendered barriers people face at every stage of life.</p> <p>The Roadmap announces a range of cross-Government activity to address gender inequality, including tackling the limiting attitudes and social norms about roles for men and women; promoting entry and progression in work; supporting people to balance work and care; and helping economic well-being in later life.</p> <p>Since publishing the Roadmap in July, the government has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launched consultations around parental leave and flexible working. • Launched the new Investing in Women Code. • Conducted a consultation into sexual harassment in the workplace. • Appointed a new Chair to a refreshed Women's Business 	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>Council.</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND: See the response to recommendation 134.82. The Equality Act 2010 provides legal protection to individuals from direct and indirect discrimination. It also placed a positive duty on public authorities to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between different people when carrying out their activities. The Scottish Government is committed to implementation of the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and has committed to incorporate CEDAW into Scots Law. In April 2018, the Scottish Government published a <i>Position Statement on the implementation of CEDAW</i>.²¹ The position statement comprehensively sets out how the Scottish Government is implementing</p>	

²¹ <https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/speech-statement/2018/05/scottish-government-position-statement-convention-elimination-forms-discrimination-against-women/documents/00535083-pdf/00535083-pdf/govscot%3Adocument/00535083.pdf>

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>and upholding the terms of the Convention in Scotland, including measures to promote women’s political, social and economic rights. A range of activity to tackle women’s inequality is being progressed in Scotland, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • targeting women’s inequality in relation to work, including through our Gender Pay Gap Action Plan • transforming the provision of early learning and childcare; • tackling all forms of violence against women and girls, including by strengthening the legislative framework to hold perpetrators to account; • establishing the National Advisory Council on Women and Girls to challenge us where more action is needed to realise gender equality in Scotland <p>We know that minority ethnic women experience multiple discrimination and inequality. In order for us to address this effectively, we have committed to improve our approach to data, and to ensure that we involve people, including minority ethnic women and girls in developing and shaping our</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					policies.	
134.97 (combating racial discrimination)	Russian Federation	Take effective measures to prevent manifestations of intolerance on the grounds of nationality and race.	For an overview of the human rights and equality framework, see the response to 134.57. On combating hate crime and hate speech, see the response to 134.84.	Supported	The UK position remains unchanged from 2017. IN SCOTLAND: See the responses to recommendations 134.82, 134.99, 134.105, 134.106 and 134.180.	Supported
134.98 (deepening awareness of minorities and foreigners)	Argentina	Take the necessary measures to deepen awareness with regard to minorities and foreigners in order to prevent them from suffering acts of violence and discrimination.	As set out in the response to 134.57, the UK already has a strong framework to protect human rights and promote equality for all. The Prime Minister said in her address to the UN General Assembly in September 2016: “the United Kingdom has always been an outward-facing, global partner at the heart of international efforts to secure peace and prosperity for all our people. And that is how we will remain”.	Supported	As set out in the response to 134.56 and 134.57, the UK already has a strong framework to protect human rights and promote equality for all. The previous Prime Minister said in her address to the UN General Assembly in September 2016: “the United Kingdom has always been an outward-facing, global partner at the heart of international efforts to secure peace and prosperity for all our people. And that is how we will remain”. The Government is considering a range of options to tackle hate crime beyond the current Action Plan, including engagement with a range of Departments and civil society partners to explore possible approaches and this will cover all characteristics protected in UK law.	Supported

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>Many of the actions outlined in the previous Hate Crime Action plan will continue beyond July 2020, and we will also continue to deliver a number of activities outside of the plan. In addition to planning our longer-term work in this area we continue to closely monitor emerging trends and hate crime incidents and implement timely, effective policy interventions.</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND: See the responses to recommendations 134.82, 134.99, 134.105, 134.106 and 134.180.</p>	
134.99 (combating hate speech; promoting the integration of migrants)	Guatemala	Adopt measures to condemn the racist rhetoric and hate speech, and the application of specific measures on the integration and inclusion of migrants aimed at the population at large.	<p>On combating hate speech, see the response to 134.84.</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND</p> <p>The Scottish Government, Convention of Scottish Local Authorities and the Scottish Refugee Council have worked with partners to develop the New Scots Refugee Integration Strategy, based on the key principle that integration begins from ‘day one’ of arrival. The first strategy ran from 2014-17, and engagement is currently taking</p>	Supported	<p>On combating hate speech, see the response to 134.84</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND: In June 2017, the Scottish Government published a <i>Tackling Prejudice and Building Connected Communities Action Plan</i>²² in response to the report of the Independent Advisory Group on Hate Crime, Prejudice and Community Cohesion. It has also established an Action Group, chaired by the Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local</p>	Supported

²² <https://www.gov.scot/publications/tackling-prejudice-building-connected-communities-scottish-government-response-report-independent/pages/5/>

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
			place around Scotland to develop the next strategy.		Government with key stakeholders, to take this work forward. The group's identified priorities are on victim support through raising awareness of hate crime and encouraging reporting, and the need to ensure better evidence and data around hate incidents and crime. On 07 October 2020, the Scottish Government, in partnership with Police Scotland, relaunched the 'Letters from Scotland' hate crime awareness campaign following concerns raised by stakeholders about an increase in hate crime incidents, across all characteristics currently protected by hate crime legislation, throughout the pandemic. The campaign aimed to raise awareness of what hate crime is, the impact upon both victims and communities and to encourage victims and witnesses to report. The campaign was a series of letters addressed to perpetrators of hate crime stating that 'your hate has no home here' helping to create 'One Scotland' where hate crime and prejudice is not tolerated.	
134.100 (combating hate crime)	Israel	Ensure efficient implementation of the new "Hate Crime"	The UK Government launched the Hate Crime Action Plan in 2016. This Action Plan focuses on five key areas to tackle hate	Supported	In October 2018, the UK Government refreshed the 2016 Hate Crime Action Plan.	Supported

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
		Action Plan” in order to reduce racially and religiously aggravated crimes.	<p>crime:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Preventing hate crime by challenging the beliefs and attitudes that can underlie such crimes. For example, the government will work to give young people and teachers the tools to tackle hatred and prejudice, including through a new programme to equip teachers to facilitate conversations about ‘difficult topics’ and carry out a new assessment of the level of anti-Muslim, antisemitic, homophobic, racist and other bullying in schools to inform further action to reduce levels of such bullying. - Responding to hate crime in communities with the aim of reducing the number of hate crime incidents. This includes the introduction of a £2.4m funding scheme for security measures at vulnerable faith institutions, measures to tackle hate crime on public transport and in the night-time economy by providing training, raising awareness and making reporting easier, and establishing community demonstration projects to explore new ways of tackling hate crime in local communities. 		<p>The UK Government has a strong legislative framework in place to tackle hate crime, including convicting those who incite hatred, whilst also protecting free speech.</p> <p>This includes criminal offences of inciting hatred on the grounds of race, religion and sexual orientation, specific racially (includes nationality, ethnicity and colour) and religiously aggravated offences and enhanced sentencing for crimes that are motivated by or demonstrate hostility to the race, religion, sexual orientation, disability or transgender identity of the victim.</p> <p>The UK Government supported work with the Society of Editors and more recently with the Independent Press Standards Organisation to develop training for editors and journalists to tackle the negative portrayal of Muslims in the media including a reliable glossary of terms regarding Islam and British Muslims to share with organisations interested in religious literacy.</p> <p>In autumn 2018 and spring 2019 the UK Government released a</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increasing the reporting of hate crime, through improving the reporting process, encouraging the use of third party reporting and working with groups who may under-report, such as disabled people, Muslim women, the Charedi Orthodox Jewish community, transgender people, Gypsy, Traveller and Roma communities, and new refugee communities. - Improving support for the victims of hate crime. For example, the government will continue to improve the use of Victim Personal Statements to ensure that victims of hate crime have their voices heard. - Building understanding of hate crime through improved data, including the disaggregation of hate crimes records by religion. <p>From April 2017, all police forces must provide disaggregated religious hate crime data.</p> <p>IN NORTHERN IRELAND:</p> <p>There has been a drop in both reported racist incidents and racist crime in the latest available statistics.</p>		<p>communications campaign to increase public awareness of what constitutes hate crime and condemn such behaviour.</p> <p>The UK Government also put in place a number of measures to increase the reporting of transphobic motivated crimes. These have included the piloting of two community demonstration projects. The first one is the development of a pilot to support young transgender people to challenge negative hate crime narratives online and encourage reporting where they see transphobic abuse, and the second one is the development of an online LGBT hate crime reporting portal managed by the LGBT organisation Galop. Steps to improve the response to hate crimes affecting LGBT people have been set out in the 2018 LGBT actions plan, published by the Government Equalities Office.</p> <p>The Crown Prosecution Service also developed three hate crime school packs (LGBT, Race & Religion, and Disability). These free to download resources for schools encourage people to report hate crimes against them and include a series of exercises to assist</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
			<p>Together with the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission and the Law Centre, the Northern Ireland Executive Office has updated the “Your Rights in Northern Ireland” guide from the previous 2011 version. This guide allows service users and providers to understand their rights and entitlements, and where to get help. The guide is available in ten languages, including Arabic for the first time.</p> <p>The Department of Justice’s Community Safety Strategy 2012-2017 contains a commitment to tackling all forms of hate crime and the harm it causes through prevention, awareness, education and support for victims and communities. The Department of Justice is involved in a number of specific initiatives to tackle hate crime and to support victims. These include: the Hate Crime Advocacy Service, which provides practical and personalised support for victims of hate crime; and the Hate Incident Practical Action Scheme, which can provide victims of hate crime with personal protection and safety measures to help them feel safer in their homes.</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND:</p> <p>Since 2012, the Scottish Government has</p>		<p>perpetrators to understand the potential consequences of this behaviour on their victims as well as themselves.</p> <p>In 2018, two years into the Action Against Hate, we reflected on our successes and the challenges that lie in tackling hate crime. Subsequently, we made a number of new commitments including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asking the Law Commission to undertake a full review into the coverage and approach of current hate crime legislation. The review is in its pre-consultation phase and is scheduled to open a consultation in 2020. • Launching a wide-ranging national hate crime public awareness campaign later this year to improve knowledge of what hate crime is and make clear that it is not acceptable. • Committing to further fund additional security to protect places of worship alongside just over £1.5 million for projects to tackle racially and religiously motivated hatred. • Publishing a White Paper on 	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
			<p>invested over £100 million to promote equality and tackle discrimination, and is continuing to work closely with partner organisations to advance the vision of ‘One Scotland’.</p> <p>There has been no evidence of a rise in hate crime in Scotland from July 2016.</p> <p>The Scottish Government has accepted the recommendations of the Independent Advisory Group on Hate Crime, Prejudice and Community Cohesion (23 September 2016) and, on 13 June, set out an ambitious programme of work to take them forward. On 26 January 2017, the Scottish Government announced an independent review of hate crime legislation, which will consider whether changes need to be made to the current laws; whether existing offences should be extended to cover other groups; and whether all hate crimes should be brought into one area of legislation. The review will include public consultation with key stakeholders and is expected to report to Scottish Ministers in early 2018.</p> <p>The Scottish Government is working to improve the capture of data to better understand the scale and severity of hate</p>		<p>Online Harms which contained a range of legislative and non-legislative measures, including work to make industry take greater responsibility for harms, utilising technology to improve user safety, and support users to increase their digital resilience. Potential areas where the Government will legislate include the social media code of practice, transparency reporting and online advertising. The White Paper opened a consultation which we are currently considering.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hosting Ministerial Roundtables on Antisemitism and Anti-Muslim Hatred. • Continuing and increasing support for the Places of Worship Security Programme which provides funding for protective security outside of places of worship. • Publishing a new Victims Strategy and reviewing the Victims’ Code, including through public consultation in autumn 2018. The Strategy aims to make sure that it is sufficiently clear and accessible to victims. It also strengthens the requirements for criminal justice agencies to comply with the Code, 	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
			<p>crime, and will run an awareness raising campaign on the impacts on hate crime in October 2017.</p> <p>IN WALES:</p> <p>In 2014, the Welsh Government published its ‘Tackling Hate Crimes and Incidents: A Framework for Action’. It includes objectives on prevention, support, and improving the multi-agency response.</p> <p>Since 2014, the Welsh Government has provided funding to Victim Support Cymru to operate the National Hate Crime Report and Support Centre. This has helped to create a reporting system across Wales which provides an initial point of contact for victims and provides advocacy, support and signposting.</p> <p>One of the Welsh Government’s short-term goals is to increase hate crime reporting and increase the confidence of victims to report. Since 2012-13 the number of reported hate crimes in Wales has increased year on year. It is seen as a reflection of the amount of work the Welsh Government, the police, the third sector and partners have put in to encourage victims to report.</p>		<p>including by making sure that all victims of crime receive their entitlements, which are: maintaining contact with victims; keeping them updated on progress with their case; and where appropriate inviting victims to make a Victim Personal Statement.</p> <p>The Government is considering a range of options to tackle hate crime beyond the current Action Plan, including engagement with a range of Departments and civil society partners to explore possible approaches and this will cover all characteristics protected in UK law.</p> <p>Many of the actions outlined in the previous Hate Crime Action plan will continue beyond July 2020, and we will also continue to deliver a number of activities.</p> <p>IN NORTHERN IRELAND: Together with the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission and the Law Centre, the Northern Ireland Executive Office has updated the “Your Rights in Northern Ireland” guide from the previous 2011 version. This guide allows service users and</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>providers to understand their rights and entitlements, and where to get help. The guide is available in ten languages, including Arabic for the first time. The Department of Justice, which chairs a multi-agency Hate Crime Delivery Group (HCDG), is working to deliver the strategic priorities in the draft Programme for Government (PfG) 2016-2021, in relation to working across government to develop new approaches to dealing with harm and vulnerability, in this context hate crime. In line with a commitment in the PfG, DOJ has commissioned a Judge-led independent Review of Hate Crime Legislation in Northern that is due to be completed by November 2020.</p> <p>The Department of Justice is involved in a number of specific initiatives to tackle hate crime and to support victims. These include: the Hate Crime Advocacy Service, which provides practical and personalised support for victims of hate crime; and the Hate Incident Practical Action Scheme, which can provide victims of hate crime with personal protection and safety measures to help them feel safer in their homes.</p> <p>Following a recommendation by the</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>Criminal Justice Inspection Northern Ireland (CJINI), which reported on Hate Crime in December 2017, DOJ are working with governmental partners to tackle the enabling factors of hate crime.</p> <p>As part of the HCDG considerations, a Hate Crime Action Plan for Northern Ireland has been developed.</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND: See the response to recommendation 134.99.</p>	
134.101 (combating hate crime)	Japan	Continue to implement measures such as promoting cultural understanding toward the eradication of hate crime against social minorities.	See the response to 134.100.	Supported	See the response to 134.100 and, for activity in Scotland, 134.99	Supported
134.102 (combating hate crime)	Kyrgyzstan	Take additional serious measures to eliminate race enmity on the ground, which leads to hate crimes.	See the response to 134.100.	Supported	See the response to 134.100 and, for activity in Scotland, 134.99	Supported
134.103 (combating hate crime)	Maldives	Take appropriate measures against the sharp increase in all hate-related violent crimes especially involving young	See the response to 134.100.	Supported	See the response to 134.100 and, for activity in Scotland, 134.99	Supported

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
		people.				
134.104 (combating hate crime)	Maldives	Improve the systems of identification of potential targets and vulnerable communities, enhance surveillance and implement protection measures to address hate crimes.	See the response to 134.100.	Supported	See the response to 134.100 and, for activity in Scotland, 134.99	Supported
134.105 (combating hate crime)	Netherlands	Continue to strengthen data collection to better understand the scale and severity of hate crimes, in order to assess the impact of the Hate Crime Action Plan.	See the response to 134.100.	Supported	See the response to 134.100 IN SCOTLAND The Scottish Government is resolved to do everything it takes to ensure that Scotland is a place where any form of hate crime or prejudice will not be tolerated. We are not complacent and recognise that many incidents go unreported and the Scottish Government is determined to avoid a culture of acceptance. Following the consultation on hate crime legislation in Scotland that ran from November 2018 to February 2019, the Scottish Government introduced the Hate Crime and Public Order (Scotland) Bill to Parliament on 23 April 2020. The Bill provides for consolidating, modernising and	Supported

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>extending hate crime legislation, ensuring that it is fit for 21st century Scotland and affords sufficient protection for those that need it. The Scottish Government also announced a commitment to developing, in principle, a standalone offence on misogyny and the establishment of a Misogynistic Harassment Working Group to take this work forward. Recognising that legislation alone is not enough to build the inclusive and equal society that we aspire to, the Scottish Government will continue to work with its partners, including Police Scotland and the Crown Office, to consider how best to raise awareness and tackle barriers to reporting. Concerning data collection, in February 2019 the Scottish Government published <i>Developing Information on Hate Crime Recorded by the Police in Scotland</i>.^[1] The report provides an update on work by Scottish Government statisticians and Police Scotland to review the availability of information on hate crime recorded by the police in Scotland. It includes a</p>	

^[1] <https://www.gov.scot/publications/developing-information-hate-crime-recorded-police-scotland/pages/3/>

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					summary of information on hate crime recorded by the police for each of the four years from 2014-15 to 2017-18 in relation to race, religion, sexual orientation, disability and transgender identity. Scottish Government statisticians are continuing to engage with Police Scotland as they develop the information they hold on hate crime. Data collection has now been completed and analysts will announce a publication date in the near future.	
134.106 (combating hate crime)	Pakistan	Prosecute perpetrators of hate crimes against vulnerable groups.	See the response to 134.100.	Supported	See the response to 134.100. IN SCOTLAND: The justice system in Scotland continues to take hate crime seriously. In April 2020, the Scottish Government introduced the Hate Crime and Public Order (Scotland) Bill to Parliament. ²³ The Bill aims to consolidate, modernise and extend hate crime legislation so that it is fit for 21st century Scotland and, most importantly, affords sufficient protection for those who need it.	Supported
134.107	Republic of	Take steps to curb	For an overview of the measures taken to	Noted	See the response to 134.84.	Noted

²³ <https://beta.parliament.scot/bills/hate-crime-and-public-order-scotland-bill>

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
(curbing the tabloids)	Korea	incitement of hatred by some British tabloid newspapers, in line with the country's obligations under national and international law.	combat hate speech, see the response to 134.84.			
134.108 (combating hate crime)	Romania	Continue to closely monitor the hate crime and discrimination cases, following the implementation by the United Kingdom Government of the newly launched Hate Crime Action Plan of 2016.	See the response to 134.100.	Supported	See the response to 134.100.	Supported
134.109 (curbing the mass media)	Russian Federation	Take measures to curb incitements of hatred in the British mass media in line with international standards.	For an overview of the measures taken to combat hate speech, see the response to 134.84.	Noted	See the response to 134.84.	Noted
134.110 (combating hate crime)	Singapore	Continue to refine its policies to counter hate crimes in communities, particularly those motivated by race and religion, and to share its best practices with	See the response to 134.100.	Supported	See the response to 134.100. IN SCOTLAND: The Scottish Government Tackling Prejudice and Building Connected Communities Action Plan is due for review in 2021.	Supported

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
		other member states.				
134.111 (combating hate speech and hate crime)	Thailand	The United Kingdom Government, parliamentarians, human rights institutions and civil society organizations continue to work closely together in order to ensure that vulnerable groups such as ethnic and religious minorities, refugees and migrants are better protected against hate speech and hate-related crime and that they are provided with greater certainty and legal protection.	See the responses to 134.84 and 134.100.	Supported	See the responses to 134.84 and 134.100. IN SCOTLAND: The Scottish Government regularly engages with the UK Government and devolved administrations with regard to tackling hate crime and prejudice. It regularly attends and participates in Ministerial-led Devolved Administration Faith and Community Cohesion meetings. The Scottish Government Ministerial-led Tackling Prejudice and Building Connected Communities Action Group includes representation from third sector organisations, justice, education and COSLA. The groups priorities include victim support through raising awareness of hate crime and encouraging reporting, and the need to ensure better evidence and data around hate incidents and crime.	Supported
134.112 (combating discrimination and hate speech)	Tunisia	Continue efforts towards combating racism and hate speech against foreigners through disseminating a	See the responses to 134.57 and 134.84.	Supported	See the response to 134.84 and 134.100 IN SCOTLAND: The Scottish Government continues to support the important interfaith engagement work that takes place	Supported

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
		culture of dialogue and cooperation among religions and civilizations.			<p>across Scotland. It provides funding for Interfaith Scotland to promote interfaith dialogue and support faith and belief communities across the country.</p> <p>The First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government co-chaired the fifth Interfaith Summit meeting in November 2019, which aimed to raise the profile of interfaith activity and promote the contribution faith communities make to Scottish society</p>	
134.113 (report on the Hate Crime Action Plan 2016)	Turkey	Prepare a report on the impact of the “Hate Crime Action Plan” with the view to assess concrete results.	The Hate Crime action plan will have an interim review in 2018 and will have a full review of its impact and outcomes in 2020.	Supported	The Hate Crime action plan had an interim review in 2018 and, as we progress work in this area, we will consider and build on its impact and outcomes.	Noted
134.114 (combating hate crime)	United States of America	Take further steps to halt and reverse the increase in the number of violent hate crimes.	See the response to 134.100.	Supported	See the response to 134.100.	Supported
134.115 (combating hate crime; access to justice for minority groups)	Angola	Adopt effective measures to combat crimes based on religious hate and facilitate access to justice to minority groups.	<p>On combating hate crime, see the response to 134.100.</p> <p>On access to justice, criminal legal aid remains available for any matter which has been prescribed as “criminal” for legal aid purposes under the law, thus all criminal offences. Through the Legal Aid, Sentencing</p>	Supported	<p>On combating hate crime, see the response to 134.100.</p> <p>.</p> <p>In addition, we continue to work closely with the police in reassuring communities, particularly in the aftermath of critical incidents</p>	Supported

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
			and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012, the UK Government reformed the scope of the civil legal aid scheme in England and Wales, but funding has been maintained for the highest priority cases, for example, where people's life or liberty is at stake or where their children may be taken into care and for those affected by domestic violence. Where a matter is out of the scope of the civil legal aid scheme, exceptional case funding is available where failure to provide legal aid would breach the applicant's rights under the ECHR or EU law, or where funding is appropriate having regard to the risk of breach.		internationally and domestically which may raise community tensions and hate crime. We work closely with Muslim communities to tackle hate crime against them, as part of our work to end all discrimination against race, faith, gender, and other communities in Britain. IN SCOTLAND: See the responses to recommendations 134.106, 134.117 and 134.122.	
134.116 (combating hate crime)	Lebanon	Redoubling efforts and measures to combat hate crimes and xenophobia.	See the response to 134.100.	Supported	See the response to 134.100 and for activity in Scotland see the response for 134.99.	Supported
134.117 (assisting victims of hate crime; raising awareness)	Bahrain	Continue working to improve the services given to the victims of discrimination and hatred, especially religious hatred and continue in raising awareness about this crime.	See the response to 134.100.	Supported	See the response to 134.100. IN SCOTLAND: The Scottish Government is committed to ensuring that the needs of victims of crime (including hate crime) are at the heart of the justice system. A Victims Taskforce has been established to improve support, advice and information for victims of crime and their families as they interact with the Scottish criminal justice system,	Supported

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					including victims of hate crime. The primary role of the Taskforce is to coordinate and drive action to improve the experiences of victims and witnesses within the criminal justice system, while ensuring a fair justice system for those accused of crime.	
134.118 (combating hate crime)	Bangladesh	Address racial discrimination, xenophobia and hate crimes by further strengthening effective legislative and judicial measures.	See the response to 134.100.	Supported	See the response to 134.100 and for activity in Scotland see the response to 134.99 and 134.106	Supported
134.119 (report on the Hate Crime Action Plan 2016)	Canada	Conduct a full review of the effectiveness of the 2016 Hate Crime Action Plan, and review approaches by criminal justice agencies under the current legal framework in order to address reports of increasing hate crime in the United Kingdom.	See the response to 134.113.	Noted	See the response to 134.113.	Noted
134.120 (combating discrimination and hate)	Chile	Continue strengthening measures to combat prejudices and punish	For an overview of the human rights and equality framework, see the response to 134.57. On combating hate crime and hate speech, see the responses to 134.84 and	Supported	For an overview of the human rights and equality framework, see the response to 134.57. On combating hate crime and hate speech, see the	Supported

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
crime)		crimes motivated by xenophobia.	134.85.		responses to 134.84. IN SCOTLAND: See the response to 134.99 and 134.106	
134.121 (refugee / migrant rights; combating hate crime)	China	Effectively guarantee the rights of refugees and migrants and make substantive progress in the fight against hate crime.	<p>The rights of migrant workers are protected in domestic legislation, including under the Human Rights Act 1998 and the Equality Act 2010. Furthermore, migrants who are legally working in the UK enjoy the full protection of UK employment law. Regulatory regimes, such as those administered by the Gangmasters Licensing Authority, are designed to protect vulnerable workers, including those from overseas. Migrant workers are also entitled to the same protections under health and safety legislation as any other worker.</p> <p>The UK has a range of means-tested, tax-funded cash benefits; in most cases, claimants must be habitually resident in the UK to qualify. Examples include: maintenance income; income-based jobseeker's allowance; income-related employment and support allowance; income support; working tax credit; and housing benefit. Refugees have access to these benefits and so do certain other non-</p>	Supported	<p>See the response to 134.100</p> <p>The Government is considering a range of options to tackle hate crime beyond the current Action Plan, including engagement with a range of Departments and civil society partners to explore possible approaches and this will cover all characteristics protected in UK law.</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND:</p> <p>Asylum and immigration are reserved matters.</p> <p>The <i>New Scot: refugee integration strategy</i>^[1] includes a framework of actions across seven themes of integration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Needs of Asylum Seekers; • Employability and Welfare Rights; • Housing; 	Supported

^[1] <https://www.gov.scot/publications/new-scots-refugee-integration-strategy-2018-2022/>

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
			<p>nationals if they are lawfully in the UK and their immigration status allows it. Asylum seekers who are destitute are provided with accommodation and a basic living allowance. They also receive free medical care and their children have access to the state education system. Failed asylum seekers are provided with similar support if they are temporarily prevented from leaving the UK. Other irregular migrants may receive support from local authorities in limited circumstances, most usually where that is necessary to safeguard the welfare of their children.</p> <p>On combating hate crime, see the response to 134.100.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education; • Language; • Health and Wellbeing; • Communities, Culture and Social Connections. 	
134.122 (combating hate crime; access to justice)	Ecuador	Adopt measures aimed at combating racism and hate crimes, in addition to strengthening and ensuring access to fair and effective mechanisms for reparation for the victims of such violence.	See the response to 134.115.	Supported	<p>See the response to 134.100 and 134.115 for information on combating racism and hate crime.</p> <p>Regarding reparations for victims of crime, compensation is available to victims of violent crime in England, Wales and Scotland through the Criminal Injuries Compensation Scheme (the Scheme), made under the Criminal Injuries Compensation Act 1995. Northern Ireland has set up and is responsible for its own scheme.</p> <p>The Scheme is administered by the</p>	Supported

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>Criminal Injuries Compensation Authority (CICA) on behalf of the Secretary of State. The Scheme provides compensation to victims who have suffered physical and mental injury due to a violent crime. For the purposes of the Scheme, a violent crime involves a physical attack, a sexual assault, or a threat that causes fear of immediate violence.</p> <p>The government funded Scheme is intended to be one of last resort. Where the opportunity exists for an applicant to obtain financial redress for the injuries they have suffered elsewhere, they should attempt to do so.</p> <p>The Government supports the provision of good quality, victim-focussed restorative justice to help victims cope and recover from the effects of crime. Victims should not be automatically precluded from taking part in restorative justice because of the crime committed against them. However no further harm should be caused to the victim, offender or the wider community by a restorative process. Restorative justice has been a key component of the youth justice</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>system in England & Wales since 1998 and in 2010 a commitment was made to widen availability across the adult criminal justice system. Action plans were published in 2013, 2014 and 2016 to deliver against this ambition. Under the Code of Practice for Victims of Crime, all victims in England & Wales have the right to receive information about the availability of restorative justice services and where appropriate be referred to those services. The Code also stipulates the obligations on providers of restorative justice, including ensuring that victims are able to give informed consent to participation and that it is in the best interests of the victims.</p> <p>Since 2014 the Ministry of Justice has provided annual funding to Police and Crime Commissioners with which to commission a wide range of local support services for victims, including restorative justice services. Further resources are also committed to providing restorative justice in the youth justice system and via the National Probation Service.</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>IN SCOTLAND:</p> <p>In June 2019, the Scottish Government published a Restorative Justice Action Plan, which supports a commitment to have restorative justice services widely available across Scotland by 2023. The plan’s vision is that:</p> <p>“Restorative Justice is available across Scotland to all those who wish to access it, and at a time that is appropriate to the people and case involved. Approaches taken are consistent, evidence-led, trauma informed and of a high standard. This seeks to ensure the needs of persons harmed and their voices are central and supports a reduction in harmful behaviour across our communities.”</p> <p>The plan brings together those harmed (individuals and/or communities) by crime (including hate crime) with those who did the harm, on a voluntary basis to repair harm.</p> <p>In November 2019, the Scottish Government introduced the Victim Surcharge, which is a new financial penalty imposed on all criminals who are sentenced to pay a court fine. The</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>money raised will be banked in the Victim Surcharge Fund. Victim support organisations will be able to apply to the Fund to cover the costs of providing short-term and practical support to victims, including new windows and locks, replacement furniture or temporary accommodation, and counselling.</p> <p>Criminal injuries compensation is also available to those subject to violent crimes.</p>	
134.123 (combating hate speech and hate crime)	Egypt	Take effective and quick measures to combat hate-speech, Islamophobia, racial aggressive acts that is on the increase in the society, and to commit to addressing the long-term consequences.	See the response to 134.84 and 134.100.	Supported	<p>See the response to 134.84. and 134.100</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND: See the responses to recommendations 134.84, 134.87 and 134.99.</p>	Supported
134.124 (discrimination against same-sex couples in Northern Ireland)	Iceland	End discrimination against same-sex couples in Northern Ireland by bringing the relevant law into line with other parts of the United Kingdom.	Civil partnerships are available in Northern Ireland, as they are in other parts of the UK. The rights of civil partners are, for the most part, equivalent to the rights of same sex spouses. The law of marriage is a devolved matter and the power to amend the law by introducing same sex marriage rests with the Northern Ireland Assembly.	Noted	The Government has legalised same-sex civil marriage and opposite-sex civil partnerships in Northern Ireland from 13 January 2020 - delivering on the obligation placed on the Government under the Northern Ireland (Executive Formation etc) Act 2019. Same-sex religious marriage and appropriate protections for religious	Support

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>bodies and officiants; and more recently conversion entitlements, have also now been delivered.</p> <p>These reforms ensure that couples in Northern Ireland have access to the equivalent rights, entitlements and benefits in practice as couples living in the rest of the UK.</p>	
134.125 (reviewing the Equality Act 2010)	Australia	Review its Equality Act in relation to gender identity and the rights of intersex persons in the context of rights to health services.	<p>A post-legislative assessment of the Equality Act 2010 published in 2015 showed that the Act has largely achieved stronger protection against discrimination for all protected groups. There are no plans to review it.</p> <p>The Equality Act 2010 already provides protection for people discriminated against because they are or are perceived to be, or are associated with someone who is, male or female or proposing to undergo, is undergoing or has undergone gender reassignment. In 2015 the UK Government published guidance to help employers and service providers comply with the law and to ensure transgender people are welcomed, included and valued as customers, clients, and staff and to ensure that they are treated fairly and appropriately. In January 2016, the UK Parliament's transgender equality report recommended that the protected characteristic of 'gender reassignment' should be amended to that of 'gender</p>	Noted	<p>The LGBT Action Plan committed to a call for evidence on understanding the life experiences of people with Variation in sex characteristics (VSC).</p> <p>This call for evidence has now closed and we are analysing the responses.</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND: The Scottish Government expects everyone to be treated fairly and equally and with respect when seeking healthcare. This was set out in the Charter of Patient Rights and Responsibilities, published under the Patient Rights (Scotland) Act 2011 and updated in June 2019.</p> <p>The Scottish Government has consulted on a draft Gender Recognition Reform (Scotland) Bill. The Scottish Government is proposing to amend the way in which a trans</p>	Noted

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
			<p>identity'. The UK Government committed to keep this under review and will continue to listen to and monitor people's experiences of discrimination, harassment or victimisation.</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND:</p> <p>The Scottish Government intends to carry out a public consultation later in 2017 on issues in relation to intersex persons.</p>		<p>person would obtain legal recognition in their lived sex, as there is a growing recognition that the current process is overly complex and medicalised and can be deeply traumatic and stressful for those going through it.</p> <p>Work on reforming the gender recognition process in Scotland is currently paused as a result of the coronavirus pandemic. The Scottish Government continues to have a strong commitment to reform the Gender Recognition Act 2004.</p> <p>IN NORTHERN IRELAND:</p> <p>The Equality Act 2010 does not extend to NI. With regards to NI, while there are no plans at present to review our existing legislation, work has commenced on the development of a new Gender Strategy for the Executive. As the strategy is being developed through a process of co-design, it is not possible to pre-empt the issues it will address. However, it may consider the issue of gender equality legislation.</p>	
134.126 (Emissions Reduction plan)	Maldives	Adapt a rights based approach to its forthcoming Emissions Reduction	The UK Government considers that the rights-based ¹³⁰ approach is assured through existing domestic legislation, including under the Human Rights Act 1998 and the	Noted	The UK's position remains unchanged from 2017.	Noted
					IN SCOTLAND:	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
		Plan.	Equality Act 2010. The plan is published by the UK Government in accordance with the Climate Change Act 2008 with a view to complying with the UK's international obligations.			<p>The Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Act 2019²⁴ places the principle of climate justice and the achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at the heart of the process for developing future statutory emissions reduction plans for Scotland (referred to as "Climate Change Plans").</p> <p>In particular, the Act requires Scottish Ministers, when preparing a new Plan, to have regard to the "climate justice principle". This is defined as the importance of taking action to reduce global emissions of greenhouse gases and to adapt to the effects of climate change in ways which support the people who are most affected by climate change but who have done the least to cause it and are the least equipped to adapt to its effects, and help to address inequality.</p> <p>New Plans must also explain how the implementation of the plan is expected to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development, including the SDGs.</p> <p>The next new Plan is due within five</p>

²⁴ <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2019/15/contents/enacted>

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					years of the 2019 Act coming into force, meaning by spring 2025 at the latest.	
134.127 (business and human rights)	Philippines	Enact legislation to ensure accountability on human rights violations and environmental damages resulting from global operations of United Kingdom companies.	Currently, there are no plans to enact additional legislation. See also the response to 134.80.	Noted	The UK's position remains unchanged from 2017. IN SCOTLAND: See the response to recommendation 134.80.	Noted
134.128 (counter-terrorism legislation)	Malaysia	Review counter-terrorism measures which target individuals or groups based on race, ethnic background or religion, including Muslims or Muslim communities.	UK counter-terrorism legislation applies to all members of the public without regard to their race, ethnic background or religion, and does not target individuals or groups on this basis. On the human rights compliance of counter-terrorism legislation, and the role of the Independent Reviewer of Terrorism Legislation, see the response to 134.62. Following the terrorist attacks in London (on 22 March, 3 June and 19 June 2017) and Manchester (on 22 May 2017), the Prime Minister ordered a review of the UK's counter-terrorism strategy to make sure the police and security services have all the powers they need to address the threat.	Supported	UK counter-terrorism legislation applies to all members of the public without regard to their race, ethnic background or religion, and does not target individuals or groups on this basis. On the human rights compliance of counter-terrorism legislation, and the role of the Independent Reviewer of Terrorism Legislation, see the response to 134.62. On 4 June 2018, the Government published a strengthened version of the UK's comprehensive counter-terrorism strategy, CONTEST. This reflected the findings of a fundamental review of all aspects of counter-terrorism, to ensure	Supported

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>that the Government has the best response to the heightened threat in the coming years. The UK Government is clear that CONTEST is a strategy for countering all forms of terrorism, irrespective of the ideology that inspires them.</p> <p>In addition to the publication of a strengthened counter-terrorism strategy (CONTEST), the Government announced, on 22 January 2019, that there would be an Independent Review of the Prevent programme; which safeguards vulnerable people from being drawn into terrorism. The Independent Review of Prevent is an opportunity to further increase the transparency of Prevent and understand where the programme can be improved. The Independent Review is now underway and the final report, and recommendations, are due to Parliament by July 2021.</p>	
134.129 (human rights compliance of counter-terrorism measures)	Mexico	Establish an evaluation mechanism of the anti-terrorist strategy that takes into account the observations made by Special Procedures	<p>On the human rights compliance of counter-terrorism legislation, see the response to 134.62.</p> <p>The UK Government takes into account the UN Concluding Observations as part of its periodic reporting process under the treaties</p>	Noted	<p>On the human rights compliance of counter-terrorism legislation, see the response to 134.62</p> <p>The UK Government takes into account the UN Concluding Observations as part of its periodic</p>	Noted

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
		and Treaty Bodies, and that evaluates its human rights implications.	that it has ratified, and as part of its response to the reports of the Special Rapporteurs visiting the UK. Currently, there are no plans for an additional evaluation mechanism.		reporting process under the treaties that it has ratified, and as part of its response to the reports of the Special Rapporteurs visiting the UK. Currently, there are no plans for an additional evaluation mechanism. However, oversight and transparency are fundamental aspects of the UK Government's work. Independent reviews such as the Operational Improvement Review (OIR) conducted by David Anderson in the wake of the 2017 attacks and the upcoming Independent Review of Prevent will continue to help improve the Government's approach to keeping the public safe.	
134.130 (human rights compliance of counter-terrorism measures)	Peru	In the context of the fight against terrorism, that the use of force be in line with the United Nations Charter and international human rights law and with due respect of the necessity and proportionality criteria.	On the human rights compliance of counter-terrorism legislation in the UK, see the response to 134.62. The UK Government's policy is to defend the UK from terrorism using all lawful means necessary to do so. Where possible, the UK will always seek to disrupt activity through non-lethal means, including working with local law enforcement from arrest, to trial, to detention of suspects through internationally compliant means. If there is a direct threat to the UK and the UK is only able to stop it through military	Noted	The UK Government's policy is to defend the UK from terrorism using all lawful means necessary to do so. Where possible, the UK will always seek to disrupt activity through non-lethal means, including working with local law enforcement from arrest, to trial, to detention of suspects through internationally compliant means. We are clear that where we identify an imminent threat to the UK, which could include a terrorist threat, we will take lawful action to address it. Lethal force would only be used as a last	Noted

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
			action, then the UK Government must be prepared to take that action. The UK Government is not prepared to let a terrorist plot materialise into an actual armed attack against the UK if it has lawful means to prevent it.		resort, and we would always do so in accordance with international law.	
134.131 (human rights compliance of the counter-extremism Bill)	State of Palestine	Ensure that the planned counter-extremism bill is in compliance with international law and does not single out certain organizations on the stereotypical assumption, based on general characteristics such as religion and the predominant race of the membership of the organization.	<p>Following the terrorist attacks in London (on 22 March, 3 June and 19 June 2017) and Manchester (on 22 May 2017), the Prime Minister ordered a review of the UK’s counter-terrorism strategy, thus including counter-extremism measures, to make sure the police and security services have all the powers they need to address the threat.</p> <p>Any Bill introduced by the UK Government will undergo the human rights compliance process provided for under the Human Rights Act 1998. Furthermore, under the Equality Act 2010, a “public sector equality duty” in England, Wales and Scotland requires public bodies to have due regard to the need to: eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by the Act; advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it; and foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share.</p>	Noted	The counter-extremism Bill was not proceeded with, so this recommendation is no longer relevant.	Noted

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
134.132 (export controls on the sale of arms overseas)	Peru	In the context of the defence of the right to life, carefully assess the transfer of arms to those countries where they are likely to be used for human rights abuses and violations.	<p>The UK takes its arms export responsibilities very seriously and operates one of the most robust and transparent export control regimes in the world.</p> <p>Under UK export control law, the export of arms is only permitted if authorised by a licence issued by the Secretary of State for International Trade. Applications for licences are considered on a case-by-case basis against the Consolidated EU and National Arms Export Licensing Criteria, known as the Consolidated Criteria.</p> <p>The assessment against the Criteria is made for applications for export licences to any country and takes account of a range of risks, including the risk of internal repression. The UK Government draws on all available information, including reports from NGOs and the UK's overseas network.</p> <p>The UK will not issue an export licence if there is a clear risk that the equipment might be used for internal repression which includes assessment of the likelihood of the exports being used to commit serious violations of human rights, or of international humanitarian law.</p>	Supported	The UK position remains unchanged from 2017.	Supported
134.133 (reporting on the UN)	Rwanda	Consider including in its next UPR report information on	The UK Government already publishes regular Human Rights and Democracy Reports on its web portal, GOV.UK. These	Supported	The Annual Human Rights and Democracy Report contains information on the UK's activities	Supported

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
Framework of Analysis for Atrocity Crimes)		measures it has taken to analyse potential risk factors of atrocity crimes including through utilising the United Nations Framework of Analysis for Atrocity Crimes.	reports capture information on the UK international work around the responsibility to protect and on mass atrocity prevention.		regarding Responsibility to Protect and on atrocity prevention.	
134.134 (human rights training for public officials)	Ecuador	Train public officials in human rights, in particular the police and the military, including on the excessive use of force.	<p>Training for public officials is closely related to the specific work that they are asked to undertake and it may not necessarily include human rights training every time.</p> <p>However, all government lawyers would complete, as part of their professional qualification or as professional development, some form of training on human rights law. All Civil Servants are asked to complete various mandatory training courses, via the web portal Civil Service Learning, which include one on equality and diversity. Those Civil Servants posted abroad would be asked to complete training tailored to the country of destination, and it may include human rights training.</p> <p>Equality Act 2010 training was delivered on implementation of that Act to those judges in England and Wales who were likely hear the first cases coming to court. A training</p>	Supported	<p>To supplement the 2017 rationale: Human rights law is incorporated into all aspects of UK policing and has helped to shape guidance on the fundamental behaviours all police officers must abide by outlined in the Code of Ethics issued by the national College of Policing.</p> <p>The guidance is clear that all use of force by the police must be lawful, necessary, proportionate and reasonable in all circumstances.</p> <p>Use of force incidents are recorded by all Home Office police forces in England and Wales and form part of the Home Office Annual Data Requirement. This was first published in December 2018 and is published on an annual basis.</p> <p>The publication of this data brings</p>	Supported

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
			<p>module on the Act was subsequently developed as “refresher” training. On a more general note, the Equal Treatment Bench Book is available electronically to every judge as a reference resource on equal treatment and diversity issues relating to protected characteristics. This includes a section on the Equality Act 2010. Ultimately listing, which is a judicial function, enables cases to be heard by an appropriate judge with the ability to hear the type of case listed.</p> <p>Prison officers undergo a comprehensive training programme aimed at developing skills to manage and care for individuals in custody; this training covers, amongst other topics, the use of force in custodial environments, understanding health and safety responsibilities in custodial environments, and understanding communication and interpersonal skills in custodial environments. In Scotland, all prison staff undertake human rights awareness training.</p> <p>The National Policing Curriculum, coordinated by the College of Policing for police officers, includes equality and human rights amongst the subjects covered. The College of Policing’s Authorised Professional Practice (APP) also provides</p>		<p>unprecedented transparency and accountability. In the longer term, as data quality improves, it will also provide an evidence base to support the development of tactics and training.</p> <p>All military personnel receive training in operational law. Operational law has a particular focus on the Law of Armed Conflict (LOAC) and covers applicable international humanitarian law and human rights law. All military personnel receive training on the following: applicability of LOAC; basic legal principles; protection of persons, places and objects; application of LOAC in the conduct of operations; and enforcement of LOAC. The minimum mandated training standard is measured annually across the services. Specific nominated civil servants and contractors also receive LOAC training.</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND: Police: Police Scotland’s Use of Force Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) supports Police Scotland’s training, leadership and development policy, and applies to all Police Officers, Special Constables and Police Staff in</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
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			<p>online advice for police officers on how to determine when the use of force is appropriate.</p> <p>All military personnel receive training in operational law. Operational law has a particular focus on the Law of Armed Conflict (LOAC), and covers applicable international humanitarian law and human rights law. All military personnel receive training on the following: applicability of LOAC; basic legal principles; protection of persons, places and objects; application of LOAC in the conduct of operations; and enforcement of LOAC. The minimum mandated training standard is measured annually across the services. Specific nominated civil servants and contractors also receive LOAC training.</p>		<p>undertaking their duties. Under the terms of the SOP, any apprehension should be made with the minimum amount of force necessary to accomplish the lawful objective concerned, and the use of any force must be recorded in Police Scotland's custody record.</p> <p>Police Scotland's custody training is extensive and needs to prepare and equip staff to work in a high-risk area of policing. Throughout the Custody Induction Course, participants are reminded that the care and welfare of detainees is the priority, as well as ensuring that their rights are protected.</p> <p>Police Scotland's Code of Ethics for policing in Scotland sets out the standards expected of all those who contribute to policing in Scotland. Integrity, fairness, respect and compliance with human rights are central to Police Scotland's professional ethics and values.</p> <p>Police Scotland's training ensures that human rights, organisational values and the Code of Ethics are considered in the design specification of every course. New recruits receive training</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
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					<p>on ethics and values, as well as on both the European Convention on Human Rights and the Human Rights Act 1998.</p> <p>Prisons: All prison staff undertake human rights awareness training, developed by the Scottish Prison Service (SPS) College and delivered by trained officers. The training is undertaken by existing prison staff and new recruits to the SPS.</p> <p>A review of Control and Restraint (C&R) is being/has been undertaken by the SPS. A revised Use of Force policy has now been developed, with greater emphasis on the roles and responsibilities of individuals involved in applying and monitoring the use of force. Additional sections have also been included which focus on both the risks of intervention and the medical conditions which may be exacerbated or be impacted by the use of force. The revisions ensure a greater focus and emphasis is placed on the safety of all involved in a restraint and the critical de-escalation practices.</p> <p>A revised Control and Restraint manual</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
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					<p>is also in progress which emphasises the need to develop a better understanding of de-escalation strategies along with a focus on safeguarding all those involved in a physical intervention.</p> <p>Respecting Individuals and Recognising Rights Part 1 was introduced in 2006 and Part 2 in 2009. The last major revision to the course was undertaken in 2012 following an amendment to Prison (Scotland) Rules. The Equality and Diversity training course also undertaken by all staff includes specific reference to the ECHR.</p> <p>HMIPS inspect and monitor prisons against a set of predefined Standards for Inspecting and Monitoring Prisons in Scotland, developed in conjunction with the Scottish Human Rights Commission (SHRC), and first published in March 2015, with a further refinement in May 2018 to ensure that they continue to express expectations under each of the Standards.</p> <p>2019-20 was the fourth full year of operation of new Independent Prison</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
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					Monitoring arrangements, under the responsibility of HMCIPS. Over 120 IPMs ensure that every prison in Scotland is visited each week to monitor the conditions and treatment in prison, through observing practice, and responding to prisoners' requests for assistance. All IPMs receive training in human rights and in the Standards for Inspecting and Monitoring Prisons, which have a focus on human rights.	
134.135 (Armed Forces' treatment of detainees overseas)	Kenya	Expedite investigation and take action on allegations of complicity of British military personnel in the ill-treatment of civilians and detainees overseas.	<p>The UK Armed Forces continue to be subject to the rule of law at all times, including the domestic criminal law of England and Wales, and where applicable, international law. The Service Police will investigate credible allegations against members of the Armed Forces, wherever in the world the incident may have occurred. In appropriate cases, these will result in a prosecution before a service court pursuant to the Armed Forces Act 2006.</p> <p>In 2013, the High Court confirmed that the Iraq Historic Allegations Team (IHAT), set up to support the military police-led investigations, met the ECHR requirement of independence. Statistics on IHAT's caseload were regularly published on the UK Government's portal GOV.UK. Following the closure of the law firm "Public Interest</p>	Supported	<p>The UK Armed Forces continue to be subject to the rule of law at all times, including the domestic criminal law of England and Wales, and where applicable, international law. The Service Police will investigate credible allegations against members of the Armed Forces, wherever in the world the incident may have occurred.</p> <p>The Service Police, working closely with the Service Prosecuting Authority, have continued to investigate allegations of ill-treatment of civilians and detainees during military operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. Where these investigations have uncovered sufficient evidence to recommend charges, they have referred cases to the Service Prosecuting</p>	Supported

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
			<p>Lawyers” and the outcome of the Solicitors Disciplinary Tribunal which proved misconduct involving a lack of integrity on the part of a solicitor who had been responsible for many of the allegations against the UK Armed Forces, the IHAT and the Service Prosecuting Authority determined that the number of investigations in which there would be any prospect of conviction has diminished very substantially compared with previous expectations. Consequently, the IHAT ceased as a separate entity on 30 June 2017, with the remaining investigations being reabsorbed by the Service Police. It is anticipated that all investigations will have been completed by the end of 2018.</p> <p>Separately, a retired High Court judge was appointed to undertake Iraq Fatalities Investigations. This process satisfies the ECHR requirements that investigations be publicly accountable, involve the families of the alleged victims, and to consider the wider circumstances of the deaths. He has published reports on six deaths; a seventh fatality investigation was commissioned in May 2017. The UK Ministry of Defence will continue to refer cases to him, as necessary.</p> <p>A robust process is in place for identifying, reviewing, and correcting areas where</p>		<p>Authority for a decision on whether to prosecute. In reaching that decision, the Service Prosecuting Authority applies the same test (realistic prospect of conviction and public interest) as the Crown Prosecution Service.</p> <p>Investigations, and decisions on whether to prosecute, are independent of both the UK Ministry of Defence and the chain of command. Some complex investigations have been subject to external oversight or assurance, and in some cases the Director of Service Prosecutions has obtained advice from independent, senior counsel before deciding whether to direct that it goes forward for prosecution.</p> <p>To meet its wider investigative obligations, the UK Ministry of Defence continues to refer cases to the Iraq Fatality Investigations process as necessary. A seventh case was completed in 2019, and an eighth was completed in 2020. A retired Court of Appeal judge has been appointed to conduct this and any further cases.</p> <p>The UK Government continues to publish periodic reports on its work to</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
			doctrine, policy and training have been insufficient to prevent practices or individual conduct that could breach the UK obligations under international humanitarian law, and the UK Government continues to publish annual reports detailing this work.		<p>identify, review, and correct any areas where doctrine, policy and training have been insufficient to prevent practices or individual conduct that could breach the UK obligations under international humanitarian law and human rights law. On 1 January 2020 ‘The Principles relating to the detention and interviewing of detainees overseas and the passing and receipt of intelligence relating to detainees’ came into effect which act to ensure UK personnel does not contribute do the mistreatment of a detainee.</p> <p>In October 2020, the UK Defence Secretary commissioned a review of policing and prosecutorial processes to ensure that, where there are serious allegations of criminal wrongdoing against UK forces which occur overseas on operations, we have the most up to date and future-proof framework, skills and processes in place and can make improvements where necessary. The review is being led by an independent judge and should report in the Summer.</p>	
134.136 (prohibition of torture)	Republic of Korea	Enact a complete prohibition of all forms of torture into	The UK Government will not participate in, solicit, encourage or condone the use of torture or cruel, inhuman or degrading	Noted	The UK position remains unchanged from 2017	Noted

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
		the 1988 Criminal Justice Act, including removals of so called “escape clauses”.	<p>treatment or punishment for any purpose.</p> <p>Torture is a criminal offence in the UK under section 134 of the Criminal Justice Act 1988, and it carries a maximum penalty of life imprisonment. The Human Rights Act 1998 gives further effect in UK law to the ECHR, including Article 3 (prohibition of torture). The Human Rights Act places a statutory obligation upon all public authorities to act compatibly with the Convention rights and strengthens a victim’s ability to rely upon the Convention rights in civil and criminal proceedings. The UK is also a party to the ECPT and has fully cooperated with Council of Europe’s visits to its detention facilities.</p> <p>The UK Government has no plans to reform the offence of torture under s.134 Criminal Justice Act 1988. The rationale for this position was set out in the 4th UK periodic report under the CAT²⁵.</p>			
134.137 (treatment of detainees)	Egypt	Adherence to international standards for respect for detainees' rights	The UK remains fully committed to the ECHR, ECPT, ICCPR, CAT and OPCAT.	Supported	The UK’s position remains unchanged from 2017. It is committed to respecting and promoting human rights for all people in its care.	Supported

²⁵ Paragraphs 39-42 of CAT/C/67/Add.2 - <http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/SitePages/Home.aspx>

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
		and the conditions of detention.			<p>IN SCOTLAND: The Scottish Prison Service has regard to international standards applicable to prisons and is committed to respecting and promoting human rights for all people in its care.</p> <p>HM Inspectorate of Prisons for Scotland (HMIPS) published revised <i>Standards for Inspecting and Monitoring Prisons in Scotland</i> in May 2018.²⁶ The revised Standards make clearer the Inspectorate’s human rights-based approach to inspection and monitoring of Scotland’s prisons.</p> <p>During the Covid 19 pandemic, HMIPS developed an adapted methodology to inspection and monitoring, resulting in a Remote Monitoring Framework and Liaison Visits Framework which focuses on the key human rights issues contained in their Standards for Inspecting and Monitoring Prisons in Scotland, which are followed during the normal inspection process.</p>	

²⁶ https://www.prisoninspectorscotland.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publication_files/SCT12176046561.pdf

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					HMIPS's Remote monitoring and liaison visit inspection frameworks are grounded in human rights principles. These ensure that HMIPS fulfils its obligations under the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (OPCAT) and essential and independent scrutiny continues into the treatment and conditions for prisoners throughout the pandemic.	
134.138 (combating human trafficking)	Islamic Republic of Iran	Adopt a comprehensive national framework to prevent trafficking in women and girls, and allow victims of trafficking to access a fair trial.	<p>The UK Government has introduced the Modern Slavery Act 2015 to tackle modern slavery, including introducing a maximum life sentence for perpetrators and enhanced support and protection for victims. The Act includes provisions for a transparency in supply chains measure for businesses, and for the Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner.</p> <p>The UK's Modern Slavery Strategy 2014 sets out a comprehensive approach to tackling modern slavery.</p> <p>The UK Government is also piloting the recommendations of the November 2014 Review of the National Referral Mechanism, the UK's victim identification and support</p>	Supported	<p>To ensure the Modern Slavery Act 2015 law is robust, and the action taken sufficient, the UK commissioned an Independent Review of the Act.</p> <p>The UK Government published a response to the Independent Review in July 2019, which can be found below, accepting or partially accepting the majority of the Review's recommendations.</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/independent-review-of-the-modern-slavery-act#final-report</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/government-response-to-the-independent-review-of-the-modern-slavery-act</p>	Supported

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
			<p>process.</p> <p>In July 2016, the Prime Minister announced a new taskforce which brings together key departments and senior leaders to accelerate progress in tackling slavery and drive forward operational activity. The Prime Minister pledged £33.5m development funding to prevent slavery, including an £11m Innovation Fund to support new approaches to tackling slavery and a £3m Child Trafficking Protection Fund. The UK Government has also committed £8.5m to transform the police response to this complex, multi-faceted crime.</p> <p>Victims of human trafficking, slavery, servitude or forced or compulsory labour can apply for civil legal aid for: applications to leave, to enter or to remain in the UK; to make a claim under employment law; or, make a claim for damages in relation to their exploitation. In cases relating to applications for leave, to enter, or to remain in the UK, legal aid is only available if a competent authority has determined that there are reasonable grounds to believe that the applicant is a victim of modern slavery and there has not been a conclusive determination that the individual is not such a victim.</p>		<p>slavery-act</p> <p>There has been a continued uplift in operational activity to tackle modern slavery, involving a range of law enforcement agencies. Operational data from the Modern Slavery Police Transformation Unit for the last quarter shows that in September 2020, there were at least 2163 active law enforcement investigations, compared with 188 in December 2016.</p> <p>This has been complemented by increased training for frontline police officers on the signs of modern slavery and improved operational intelligence on the nature of modern slavery, including exchanges between police forces in the UK and in other countries.</p> <p>Project AIDANT, the series of National Crime Agency (NCA)-led operational intensifications, continued to bring together resources from the NCA, Border Force, Immigration Enforcement, Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs, the Gangmasters and Labour Abuse Authority and UK police forces to deliver intensified operational activity focused on specific thematic areas.</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
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			<p>Modern slavery is a global problem and requires a global response. The UK Government successfully argued for the establishment of UN Sustainable Development Goal 8.7 to end modern slavery, and ratified the Protocol of 2014 to ILO Convention 29 on Forced Labour, signalling its commitment to stamping out labour exploitation. The UK Government intends to work within the UN system to create guidance, international pressure, and support that will drive action on the ground within countries, and cooperation between countries.</p> <p>IN NORTHERN IRELAND:</p> <p>Northern Ireland has a robust legislative framework which is centred on the Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Criminal Justice and Support Victims) Act (Northern Ireland) 2015. This Act reinforces Northern Ireland’s defences against human trafficking and slavery and enhances the protection and support for victims of these offences.</p> <p>Section 12 of the Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Criminal Justice and Support for Victims) Act 2015 places a requirement on the Department of Justice in Northern Ireland to produce an annual strategy on human trafficking and modern slavery.</p>		<p>During Project AIDANT activity in 2018, over 308 offenders were arrested and over 415 potential victims of trafficking were identified. Some of these intensifications also formed part of EU-wide operational activity, delivered through the Europol EMPACT Trafficking in Human Beings Group.</p> <p>During 2018, the NCA has also been leading activity to tackle common enablers of modern slavery including use of the internet to advertise victims of sexual exploitation, and the illicit financial flows which are linked to the criminal profits made from trafficking.</p> <p>In 2019, one of the largest modern slavery cases ever brought to trial in Europe (Operation Fort) concluded. Following a complex and lengthy investigation led by West Midlands Police, the criminal gang responsible were brought to justice and the victims safeguarded. The criminal gang responsible trafficked over 400 potential victims from Poland to the UK for forced labour.</p> <p>The Gangmasters and Labour Abuse</p>	

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			<p>Annual strategies for 2015/16 and 2016/17 have been published. A significant piece of work focusses on public awareness and training for relevant front-line professionals.</p> <p>Section 21 of the Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Criminal Justice and Support for Victims) Act (Northern Ireland) 2015 places a duty on the Health and Social Care Board in the Northern Ireland to make arrangements to enable an independent Guardian to be appointed for child victims and potential victims of human trafficking, as well as separated children.</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND:</p> <p>The Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Scotland) Act was unanimously passed by the Scottish Parliament in 2015. The Act raises the maximum penalty for trafficking to life imprisonment and gives police and prosecutors greater powers to detect and prosecute those responsible through a new set of tools to prevent and punish trafficking.</p> <p>The Act also requires the development of a Trafficking and Exploitation Strategy, which was laid before the Scottish Parliament in May 2017 and is to be reviewed every three years. The strategy has been produced by working closely with stakeholders, including</p>		<p>Authority (GLAA) are responsible for protecting workers from labour exploitation. Over the last two years, the GLAA has continued to make progress using its new powers under the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 to investigate serious cases of labour exploitation. In 2019/20 the GLAA conducted over 200 operations across a range of sectors.</p> <p>The UK is taking a comprehensive approach to supporting victims. To date, the National Referral Mechanism (NRM) has lifted thousands out of dangerous situations of exploitation and put them in a position where they can begin to rebuild their lives. Building on this success, the Government has now established an ambitious NRM Transformation Programme. This programme will seek to address the challenges our current system faces and intends to be a world-class system that effectively identifies and delivers needs-based support for victims of modern slavery.</p> <p>Local authorities are responsible for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all children in their area including child victims of modern</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
			<p>victims of trafficking and exploitation.</p> <p>Children are supported through the child protection system and eligible children are given the additional support of an independent child trafficking guardian.</p> <p>The Victims and Witnesses (Scotland) Act 2014 obliges Police Scotland to direct victims of crime towards the Victims' Code for Scotland, which contains information about compensation and is available in a number of languages.</p> <p>In Scotland, the position of victims of trafficking in criminal proceedings and their access to legal aid is no different to that of other victims of crime with an interest in a criminal case.</p> <p>IN WALES:</p> <p>The response to slavery in Wales was bolstered by the appointment of a Welsh Government Anti-Slavery Co-ordinator and the establishment of the Wales Anti-Slavery Leadership Group.</p>		<p>slavery under existing measures in the Children Act 1989. Local children's services work in close co-operation with the police and other statutory agencies to offer potentially trafficked children the support they require.</p> <p>In addition to this ongoing statutory support, the Government has started rolling out Independent Child Trafficking Guardians (ICTGs), recently renamed from Independent Child Trafficking Advocates, across England and Wales, as set out in Section 48 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015. ICTGs are an additional source of advice and support for all trafficked children, irrespective of nationality, and somebody who can advocate on their behalf.</p> <p>Last year, the Government successfully rolled out ICTGs to one third of all local authorities in England and Wales. Where the service is available, all children that are potential victims of trafficking are eligible for support. The continued national roll-out of ICTGs will be progressed as part of the NRM Transformation Programme.</p> <p>In April 2019 the UK Government</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>established the Single Competent Authority - a new single, expert unit to make all decisions on whether someone is a victim of modern slavery.</p> <p>Since 2011 the UK Government has funded the Victim Care Contract (VCC) for adult victims of modern slavery in England and Wales. Support through the VCC is made available for adult victims of Modern Slavery. The current contract is operated by The Salvation Army and subcontractors. In June 2020 the new Modern Slavery VCC was awarded to The Salvation Army.</p> <p>Support through the VCC is available to all adult victims who are referred to the NRM and received a positive reasonable grounds decision. Their dependents are also able to receive support. This support is available for a minimum of 45 days and continues until a conclusive ground's decision has been made. If, then, a conclusive grounds decision has been made then victims are entitled to remain in support for a minimum of 45 days. A Recovery Needs Assessment will be undertaken during this period which will allow support to be provided to</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>meet ongoing recovery needs arising from their modern slavery experiences beyond this 45-day period.</p> <p>On prevention, the UK Government has invested £10 million into a new Modern Slavery Policy and Evidence Centre. This will significantly increase our ability to understand and prevent modern slavery from happening in the first place, based on evidence and research.</p> <p>In May 2019, Dame Sara Thornton assumed the role of the new Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner (IASC). The IASC plays an instrumental role in giving independent advice on modern slavery issues and how they should be tackled across the whole UK.</p> <p>The UK Government has taken a leading role in tackling modern slavery globally. In the past two years the UK has aligned international engagement on modern slavery with the UK's Serious Organised Crime Strategy.</p> <p>The UK Government is committed to tackling modern slavery globally and our international efforts are led by the</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>Home Office, Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office. The approach includes work directly with countries who are common source of victims in the UK, work with countries who have significant domestic modern slavery vulnerabilities, and to address modern slavery multilaterally. As part of this strategy the UK Government has committed a £200m budget to fund activity. The UK Government has seen successes in Nigeria, for example.</p> <p>In October 2019, the UK Government announced the appointment of Jennifer Townson as the first Migration and Modern Slavery Envoy. In this role, Ms Townson is an advocate for tackling modern slavery globally, helping the UK to co-ordinate its efforts with other nations.</p> <p>Following an independent Review of the Modern Slavery Act the UK Government has consulted on proposals to strengthen the transparency in supply chains legislation in the Modern Slavery Act.</p> <p>In September 2020 the Government published a response to the consultation, committing to taking</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>forward an ambitious package of changes to strengthen and future-proof the Modern Slavery Act’s transparency legislation.</p> <p>In March 2020, the UK became the first country to publish a Government Modern Slavery Statement setting out the steps that we have taken to identify and prevent modern slavery in our own supply chains.</p> <p>From 2021 onwards, HM Government departments will publish their own annual statements.</p> <p>The UK Government has developed tools and guidance to support how public bodies conduct modern slavery due diligence.</p> <p>IN NORTHERN IRELAND: The NI position remains unchanged from 2017.</p> <p>IN WALES:</p> <p>Training</p> <p>The Welsh Government National Training Framework has approved the establishment of an Anti-Slavery</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>Training Programme to deliver a wide range of courses across Wales to a consistent level. Each year thousands of people across Wales benefit from receiving this training.</p> <p>There has also been the development of a Wales Victim Response Pathway which operates across all of Wales. It incorporates the use of the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) process for survivors. This is seen to be good practice and is only taking place in Wales.</p> <p>To support this process, a MARAC Co-ordinator has been recruited and initially being funded from assets confiscated from criminals using the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002. The MARAC Co-ordinator is a member of Bawso²⁷ staff who works from the Regional Organised Crime Unit. The post is now jointly funded by the Welsh Police Forces.</p> <p>Independent Child Trafficking Guardians Programme</p>	

²⁷ Bawso is a non-profit organisation in Wales providing specialist services for black minority ethnic communities.

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>Wales is one of three Home Office funded Early Adapter areas for the Independent Child Trafficking Guardians Programme. Barnardo's Cymru operates the Programme in Wales. Launched on 30 January 2017, for the first year as at 28 February 2018, from across Wales 92 children had been referred into the National Referral Mechanism and were being safeguarded. The children's ages range from 10 months to 17 years of age. As at 30 September over 600 have been referred and safeguarded. All 22 Welsh Local Authorities are engaged. The countries from where the children are referred include the UK, Vietnam, Bangladesh, Albania and Romania.</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND: The Scottish Government's first Trafficking and Exploitation Strategy (May 2017)²⁸ sets out three action areas to focus work towards the overall vision of eliminating human trafficking and exploitation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify victims and support them to safety and recovery 	

²⁸ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/trafficking-exploitation-strategy/>

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify perpetrators and disrupt their activity • Address the conditions, both local and global, that foster trafficking and exploitation <p>Each action area has formed an implementation group with membership ranging across government, law enforcement, victim support, local authorities, business, NGOs and academia. A separate group exists for child trafficking and links into the other strands.</p> <p>A number of positive outcomes have been achieved through implementation of the strategy.²⁹ Police Scotland, with input from a range of partners, has developed an e-learning resource which can be used in a range of settings but is specifically designed for public sector professionals who may come into contact with trafficking and exploitation victims but do not work with them on a regular basis.</p> <p>A standard awareness-raising presentation has also been developed for use by community groups and anyone else with an interest. This helps</p>	

²⁹ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/human-trafficking-exploitation-strategy-first-annual-progress-report/>

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>to ensure that messages being spread within groups are accurate and consistent.</p> <p>In January 2018, the Scottish Government published revised age-assessment guidance to reflect section 12 of the Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Scotland) Act 2015.³⁰ Section 12 requires that, where the age of a victim of human trafficking is uncertain but there are reasonable grounds to believe they are under 18 years of age, the relevant authorities must presume the victim is a child for the purpose of receiving immediate support and services until their age is formally established. The revised guidance includes a specific appendix to support taking a trauma-informed approach to age-assessment. Over the summer, training sessions were delivered remotely by legal experts to practitioners on the revised age-assessment guidance to help improve practice.</p> <p>In October 2018, the Scottish Government published guidance for businesses on how to identify and</p>	

³⁰ <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2015/12/contents/enacted>

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>prevent human trafficking and exploitation across their operations.³¹ This guidance will assist organisations in meeting their responsibilities under section 54 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015.</p> <p>In October 2019, the Scottish Government published guidance for health care workers on spotting the signs of human trafficking and exploitation and how to respond if they have concerns.³² Also in October 2019, the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA) published guidance to support Scottish local authorities in developing good practice to identify, refer and support victims of human trafficking and exploitation, and disrupt and deter criminal activities.³³ Due to COVID-19 restrictions, planned in person training events were cancelled. In order to respond to the ongoing need for training, the training officer within the Trafficking Awareness Raising Alliance quickly developed a short webinar to raise</p>	

³¹ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/slavery-human-trafficking-guidance-businesses-scotland/pages/5/>

³² <https://www.gov.scot/publications/human-trafficking-exploitation-health-workers-need-know/>

³³ <http://www.migrationscotland.org.uk/resources/human-trafficking-exploitation-guidance>

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>awareness, highlight the gendered nature of human trafficking and provide an overview of the National Referral Mechanism process. During May, June and July 12 online events were delivered with very positive engagement from across Scotland. Child victims of trafficking continue to be looked after and accommodated under section 25 of the Children (Scotland) Act 1995.³⁴</p> <p>The Scottish Government continues to fund the Scottish Guardianship Service, which provides a guardian to victims, and those suspected as being victims, of child trafficking. Section 11 of the Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Scotland) Act 2015 places a duty on Scottish Ministers to provide an independent guardian for unaccompanied asylum-seeking children, where there is reason to believe they might have been or are at risk of being trafficked, and for whom no-one in the UK has parental rights and responsibilities.</p> <p>In August 2019, the Scottish Government launched a consultation</p>	

³⁴ <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1995/36/contents>

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>on an Independent Child Trafficking Guardian (ICTG) service. The ICTG service will, for the first time, put the role of the Guardian on a statutory footing with other support services and will be a national service available to all children who are victims of trafficking, as well as unaccompanied children seeking asylum. The Scottish Guardianship Service will continue to provide a Guardian to victims of child trafficking until the ICTG service is operational. The consultation closed in November 2019 and, following the consultation and tendering processes, it is expected that the new ICTG service will be implemented in 2021.</p> <p>In October 2020, the Scottish Government published a research paper on Child Trafficking in Scotland by the University of Stirling. The study shed a light on the unique needs of children and young people who had been victim to trafficking; and highlighted improvements to current practice to ensure these children get the right help, at the right time. Importantly, the research includes interviews with trafficked children and young people in Scotland. Those first-hand accounts will inform how we continue to improve the support and services</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>available.</p> <p>On law enforcement, extensive human trafficking training has been carried out among operational police officers, staff and partner agencies to improve awareness and detection of human trafficking offences. This includes a week-long ‘classroom based’ national Human Trafficking Investigators Course,</p> <p>The Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service (COPFS) has appointed a National Lead Prosecutor for Human Trafficking, who has oversight of all decisions relating to the prosecution of alleged traffickers and the non-prosecution of alleged victims of human trafficking. This oversight ensures that there is consistency and expertise in the decision-making process. COPFS has also appointed local lead prosecutors for human trafficking in various geographical locations throughout Scotland. The lead prosecutors work closely with Police Scotland’s National Human Trafficking Unit and Police Scotland Divisional Human Trafficking Champions.</p> <p>Section 9 of the Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Scotland) Act 2015 confers power on the Scottish Ministers</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>to define the relevant period during which they must secure the provision of support and assistance to adult victims as they consider necessary given the adult's needs, where there are reasonable grounds to believe that an adult is a victim of an offence of human trafficking under section 1 of the Act.</p> <p>Section 9(2)(b)(i) empowers the Scottish Ministers to specify the period during which the Scottish Ministers must secure for the adult the provision of such support and assistance as they consider necessary given the adult's needs, where there are reasonable grounds to believe that an adult is a victim of an offence of human trafficking and exploitation, an offence under section 1 of the Act. Regulations came into force on 1 April 2018 setting this period of support at 90 days, unless a conclusive determination of whether the individual is a victim of trafficking is made before this. Support and assistance may be provided under this regulation in connection with (but is not limited to) the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • accommodation; • day to day living; • medical advice and treatment (including psychological 	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>assessment and treatment);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • language translation and interpretation; • counselling; • legal advice; • information about other services available to the adult; and • repatriation. <p>In addition, Section 10 of the 2015 Act contains powers for the Scottish Ministers to make regulations about the support and assistance which may be provided to an adult who is, or appears to be, a victim of an offence under section 4 of the 2015 Act, namely slavery, servitude and forced or compulsory labour. Regulations came into force on 1 April 2018 setting out the process of determining whether an adult is a victim of an offence under section 4. The support and assistance provided, and the period for which it is provided, should be identical to that for a victim of an offence of human trafficking and exploitation.</p> <p>The support provision are similar to those under section 9(2)(b)(i) as above. The Scottish Government has continued to fund the Trafficking Awareness Raising Alliance (TARA) and Migrant Help to provide specialist</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>support to victims of human trafficking and exploitation in Scotland. TARA support adult females trafficked for the purposes of commercial sexual exploitation and Migrant Help support all other adult victims.</p> <p>Section 8 of the 2015 Act places a duty on the Lord Advocate to prepare and publish instructions for prosecutors about the prosecution of suspected or confirmed victims of the offence of human trafficking and the offence under section 4 (slavery, servitude and forced or compulsory labour). The instructions have been published.³⁵ The COPFS continues to apply the Lord Advocate’s instructions to ensure that victims of trafficking, slavery, servitude and forced or compulsory labour are not prosecuted in relation to offences committed as a consequence thereof.</p> <p>Section 38 of the Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Scotland) Act 2015 places a duty on specified Scottish public authorities to notify the Chief</p>	

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https://www.copfs.gov.uk/images/Documents/Victims_and_Witnesses/HumanTrafficking/Lord%20Advocates%20Instructions%20for%20Prosecutors%20when%20considering%20Prosecution%20of%20Victims%20of%20Human%20Trafficking%20and%20Exploitation.pdf

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>Constable of Police Scotland of a person who appears to be the victim of human trafficking or of slavery, servitude and forced or compulsory labour. A public consultation opened on 16 June 2019 and closed on 6 September 2019. Overall there was strong support for the Scottish Government's proposals within the consultation. The consultation analysis report was published on 30 April 2020³⁶. Legislative implementation of the duty has been delayed until 1 April 2021 at the earliest due to the fast-moving response to COVID-19 and its impact on public services.</p> <p>The Vulnerable Witness (Criminal Evidence) (Scotland) Act 2019³⁷ created a new rule for child witnesses under 18 to ensure that, where they are due to give evidence in the most serious cases, they will be allowed to have it pre-recorded in advance of the trial. The rule covers a number of charges including human trafficking. The Act includes powers to extend the rule to adult witnesses deemed to be</p>	

³⁶ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/consultation-report-section-38-human-trafficking-exploitation-scotland-act-2015-duty-notify-provide-information-victims/>

³⁷ <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2019/8/contents/enacted>

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					vulnerable, and also covers human trafficking in this connection. In May 2020, the Scottish Government published the Third Annual Trafficking and Exploitation progress report and a review of the Strategy, three years on from publication ³⁸ .	
134.139 (combating human trafficking)	Philippines	Adopt a victim centred comprehensive national framework against trafficking in persons, especially women and girls.	See the response to 134.138.	Supported	See the response to 134.138.	Supported
134.140 (combating human trafficking)	Russian Federation	Investigate thoroughly incidents of trafficking in human beings and ensure that the perpetrators are subject to proportionate punishment.	See the response to 134.138.	Supported	See the response to 134.138.	Supported
134.141 (combating human trafficking)	Spain	Reinforce the National Referral Mechanism to identify and assist victims of human	See the response to 134.138.	Supported	See the response to 134.138.	Supported

³⁸ <https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/progress-report/2020/05/trafficking-exploitation-strategy-third-annual-progress-report-strategy-review/documents/trafficking-exploitation-strategy-third-annual-progress-report-strategy-review/trafficking-exploitation-strategy-third-annual-progress-report-strategy-review/govscot%3Adocument/trafficking-exploitation-strategy-third-annual-progress-report-strategy-review.pdf>

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
		trafficking.				
134.142 (combating human trafficking)	Timor-Leste	Adopt a comprehensive national framework to combat trafficking in women and girls.	See the response to 134.138.	Supported	See the response to 134.138.	Supported
134.143 (combating human trafficking)	Uganda	Strengthen the national framework to combat human trafficking and ensure adequate support and protection to victims of trafficking.	See the response to 134.138.	Supported	See the response to 134.138.	Supported
134.144 (combating human trafficking)	Lebanon	Strengthen national mechanisms to combat human trafficking, specifically women and girls, and to support and rehabilitate its victims.	See the response to 134.138.	Supported	See the response to 134.138.	Supported
134.145 (monitoring the Modern Slavery Act 2015)	Australia	Monitor the implementation of the 2015 Modern Slavery legislation, including its effectiveness in combating trafficking in women and girls.	The Modern Slavery Act 2015 was independently reviewed in July 2016. The outcome of the review is publicly available on the UK Government's portal.	Supported	In 2018, the Government commissioned Frank Field MP, Maria Miller MP and Baroness Butler-Sloss to undertake an Independent Review of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 with a view to understanding the effectiveness of the legislation, and any opportunities to strengthen and enhance it as modern slavery evolves. The Government published its response	Supported

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					to the review in July 2019. https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/government-response-to-the-independent-review-of-the-modern-slavery-act See the response to recommendation 134.138	
134.146 (combating human trafficking)	Bahrain	Continue strengthening the positive measures taken to combat the crime of trafficking in persons and particularly those measures concerning the protection of child victims.	See the response to 134.138.	Supported	See the response to recommendation 134.138.	Supported
134.147 (combating human trafficking)	Morocco	Continue efforts to fight human trafficking and all forms of slavery.	See the response to 134.138.	Supported	See the response to recommendation 134.138.	Supported
134.148 (Investigatory Powers Act 2016)	Haiti	Strengthen the protection of citizens and the right to privacy in the Investigatory Powers Bill of 2016.	The Investigatory Powers Act 2016 provides world-leading transparency and privacy protection. It received unprecedented and exceptional scrutiny in the UK Parliament and was passed with cross-party support. There should be no doubt about the necessity of the powers that it contains or the strength of the safeguards that it includes. The UK Government considers that this	Noted	The UK position remains unchanged from 2017.	Noted

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
			<p>legislation complies with the UK's international human rights obligations (see the response to 134.62 for more details on human rights compliance of UK legislation).</p> <p>This important piece of legislation provides a new framework to govern the use and oversight of investigatory powers by law enforcement and the security and intelligence agencies. It provides strong new safeguards and a world leading oversight regime.</p> <p>A powerful new independent Investigatory Powers Commissioner, Lord Justice Adrian Fulford, a judge of the Court of Appeal in England and Wales, was appointed in February 2017 to authorise and oversee the use of Investigatory Powers.</p>			
134.149 (human rights compliance of surveillance measures)	Liechtenstein	Bring all legislation concerning communication surveillance in line with international human rights standards and especially recommends that all	<p>See the response to 134.148.</p> <p>The Investigatory Powers Act, and indeed all UK communication surveillance legislation, is entirely consistent with international human rights standards. The cornerstone of the Investigatory Powers Act is that use of the powers must be considered necessary and proportionate.</p>	Noted	<p>The UK position remains unchanged from 2017.</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND In Scotland, surveillance authorisations in respect of covert surveillance, property interference and Covert Human Intelligence Sources are covered by the Regulation of</p>	Noted

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
		communications surveillance requires a test of necessity and proportionality.			Investigatory Powers (Scotland) Act 2000 ³⁹ and the associated Codes of Practice. These provide a robust system to ensure that surveillance authorisations meet the tests of necessity and proportionality.	
134.150 (human rights compliance of surveillance measures)	Paraguay	Ensure that the regulation on surveillance does not violate the right to privacy, intimacy and freedom of expression of its citizens.	See the response to 134.148 and 134.149.	Noted	The UK position remains unchanged from 2017.	Noted
134.151 (reviewing the Investigatory Powers Act 2016 to prohibit surveillance)	Brazil	Consider the revision of the Investigatory Powers Act 2016 with a view to protecting the right to privacy, including by prohibiting mass surveillance activities and the collection of communications data without warrants.	See the response to 134.148 and 134.149.	Noted	The UK position remains unchanged from 2017.	Noted
134.152 (protection of the family)	Egypt	Provide protection to the family as a natural and fundamental unit	There are different kinds of families that the courts can recognise.	Supported	The UK position remains unchanged from 2017.	Supported

³⁹ <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2000/11/contents>

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
		to the society.	<p>The UK Government has promoted legislation aimed at supporting families. For example, the Children and Families Act 2014 introduced reforms to: adoption and children in care; aspects of the family justice system; services for children and young people with special educational needs; the Office of the Children’s Commissioner for England; statutory rights to leave and pay for parents and adopters; and provides for both time off work for ante-natal care and the right to request flexible working and provision for providing better support in schools for children with medical conditions.</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND</p> <p>The Scottish Government delivers a range of policies to support children and families. Scotland’s sixteen National Outcomes include: “our children have the best start in life and are ready to succeed”; “we have improved the life chances for children, young people and families at risk”.</p>		<p>IN SCOTLAND:</p> <p>The Scottish Government delivers a range of policies to support children and families. Scotland’s National Performance Framework includes the following National Outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Our children have the best start in life and are ready to succeed” • “We have improved the life chances for children, young people and families at risk” <p>The Children (Scotland) Act 2020 received Royal Assent on 1 October 2020.. Key policy aims of the Act are to ensure that the child’s best interests are at the centre of any contact and residence case; that the views of the child are heard; and to further compliance with the UNCRC.</p> <p>In September 2019, the Scottish Government published a <i>Family Justice Modernisation Strategy</i>⁴⁰ setting out ongoing work to improve the operation of family justice by the Scottish Government and others.</p>	

⁴⁰ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/family-justice-modernisation-strategy/>

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
134.153 (corporate criminal liability for human rights violations)	Namibia	Consider aligning its corporate criminal liability regime with international human rights law in order to ensure accountability and effective remedy for victims of serious human rights abuses involving the operations of United Kingdom companies abroad.	<p>As set out in the response to 134.80, the UK has already taken significant steps to address the human rights implications of UK business activities overseas. The UK Government has no immediate plans to legislate further in this area.</p> <p>For example, the UK is committed to the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights which provide guidance on responsible business practices to oil, gas and mining companies, which often operate in high-risk and conflict affected areas. This guidance helps companies engage with public and private security providers, and with local communities as part of the process of conducting effective risk assessments, in order to ensure their security operations do not lead to human rights abuses or exacerbate conflict.</p> <p>The Reports on Payments to Governments Regulations 2014 require large undertakings operating in the extractive industries sector to disclose payments they have made to governments.</p> <p>The UK National Contact Point (NCP), which sits within the UK Government, promotes the responsible business standards of the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises amongst UK multinationals, and</p>	Noted	The UK's position remains unchanged from 2017.	Noted

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
			<p>considers complaints that UK businesses have not met these standards. The complaint process offers a non-judicial mechanism for complainants and businesses to resolve issues with the assistance of professional mediators or, where this is not successful, for the NCP to make recommendations. The UK National Contact Point is generally considered to be one of the best performing and is regularly invited by the OECD to contribute to best practice sharing. All the NCP's assessments and statements on complaints are published online.</p> <p>On access to justice, criminal legal aid remains available for any matter which has been prescribed as "criminal" for legal aid purposes under the law, thus all criminal offences. Through the Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012, the UK Government reformed the scope of the civil legal aid scheme in England and Wales, but funding has been maintained for the highest priority cases. Where a matter is out of the scope of the civil legal aid scheme, exceptional case funding is available where failure to provide legal aid would breach the applicant's rights under the ECHR or EU law, or where funding is appropriate having regard to the risk of breach.</p>			
134.154 (access to	Netherlands	Ensure the accessibility of	Through the Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012, the UK	Supported	The UK position is generally unchanged from 2017.	Supported

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
legal aid)		appropriate legal aid to safeguard access to justice for all, particularly for the most marginalized groups in society.	<p>Government reformed the scope of the civil legal aid scheme in England and Wales, but funding has been maintained for the highest priority cases, for example, where people’s life or liberty is at stake or where their children may be taken into care and for those affected by domestic violence. Where a matter is out of the scope of the civil legal aid scheme, exceptional case funding is available where failure to provide legal aid would breach the applicant’s rights under the ECHR or EU law, or where funding is appropriate having regard to the risk of breach.</p> <p>Victims of human trafficking, slavery, servitude or forced or compulsory labour can apply for civil legal aid for: applications to leave, to enter or to remain in the UK; to make a claim under employment law; or, make a claim for damages in relation to their exploitation. In cases relating to applications for leave, to enter, or to remain in the UK, legal aid is only available if a competent authority has determined that there are reasonable grounds to believe that the applicant is a victim of modern slavery and there has not been a conclusive determination that the individual is not such a victim.</p> <p>Female Genital Mutilation Protection Orders</p>		<p>Where a matter is out of the scope of the civil legal aid scheme, exceptional case funding is available where failure to provide legal aid would breach the applicant’s rights under the ECHR or retained EU law, or where funding is appropriate having regard to the risk of breach.</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND: The Scottish Government will commence work around identifying access to justice issues for marginalised groups and will take forward reforms to the legal aid system as part of a new Legal Aid Bill for Scotland.</p> <p>A public consultation around the legal aid system in Scotland has been completed and responses analysed. The main principles for reform were supported and included targeting services at specific groups. The Scottish Government is in the early stages of Bill work for reforms.</p>	

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			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
			<p>are within the scope of the civil legal aid scheme.</p> <p>Legal aid remains available for asylum claims and for immigration applications for the most vulnerable such as victims of human trafficking, victims of domestic violence and those appealing asylum claim decisions. Legal aid remains available for children going through asylum proceedings.</p> <p>Criminal legal aid remains available for any matter which has been prescribed as “criminal” for legal aid purposes under the law, thus all criminal offences.</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND:</p> <p>In Scotland, there is a demand led system that maintains wide access to legal aid for both criminal and civil cases. It also has a high eligibility rate.</p> <p>A person looking for legal advice has open to them a full range of publicly funded legal assistance in Scotland. The same statutory tests apply and there is no residency test for accessing this funding. Children can also access legal advice and representation on the same broad issues that anyone can so long as they have the capacity to instruct a solicitor. In February 2017, the Scottish Government announced a comprehensive, independent</p>			

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			review of legal aid.			
134.155 (combating corruption)	Nigeria	Continue to intensify efforts and take necessary measures with a view to carrying out the reparation of illicit funds and proceeds of corruption to their countries of origin and to ensure cooperation with requesting states.	<p>The UK Government has taken important measures to increase transparency in the payments from UK companies to governments overseas, and to combat corruption.</p> <p>The Bribery Act 2010 created an offence that can be committed by commercial organisations which fail to prevent persons associated with them from bribing another person on their behalf. The Reports on Payments to Governments Regulations 2014 requires large undertakings and UK public interest companies operating in the extractive industries to disclose payments they have made to governments.</p> <p>The Crown Dependencies and Overseas Territories share tax information on request through a network of tax information exchange agreements. They therefore already share taxpayer financial account information automatically with the UK, and most of them (including all the Crown Dependencies) will start with the rest of the world later in 2017 under the OECD's Common Reporting Standard. They have also signed reciprocal agreements with the UK to provide law enforcement authorities with near real-time access to information on</p>	Noted	<p>The UK is fully committed to recovering and returning the proceeds of corruption. This must be done in accordance with legal due process, which can take time, but ensures a fully fair and transparent process. Our continuing aim is to leave no safe space for organised criminals to operate: targeting the proceeds of their crimes, including corruption, is a key of disrupting and deterring them. In 2018 the Financial Action Task Force recognised the UK as one of the few jurisdictions in the world that is effectively confiscating the proceeds of crime. The UK will continue to build from this position of strength.</p> <p>In recent years we have brought in additional civil powers to strengthen our asset recovery regime, such as Unexplained Wealth Orders (UWO) to require a person to explain the sources of their wealth and Interim Freezing Orders, which allow the freezing of assets while investigation is ongoing and a UWO is in place. The UK's intention in all of this is to improve transparency and identify illicit assets.</p>	Supported

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
			<p>beneficial ownership of companies.</p> <p>This progress puts the UK, Crown Dependencies and Overseas Territories at the forefront of the global drive for greater tax transparency, well ahead of others.</p>		<p>UK Law enforcement pursues cases to recover the proceeds of corruption and the Government is working with countries to ensure those funds are returned in a transparent and accountable manner for the benefit of their people. The Foreign, Commonwealth and Development office funds a law enforcement team within the National Crime Agency to investigate cases where assets from developing countries have been stolen and laundered through the UK. This work is complemented at the international level by funding to the International Centre on Asset Recovery and to the World Bank Stolen Asset Recovery Centre, to assist countries to build their capability and to pursue international cases.</p> <p>The UK has recently taken further steps to improve international cooperation, by establishing a team in the UK Central Authority to support countries with requests related to corruption. The UK also hosts the International Anti-Corruption Coordination Centre, based in the UK with membership across six countries, which provides coordination on grand corruption investigations, bringing</p>	

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					<p>together specialist law enforcement officers from multiple agencies and non-participating law enforcement agencies from all over the world.</p> <p>The UK recognises that secret companies facilitate corruption, money laundering and terrorist financing and in the fight against corruption, it is vital that there is transparency of who ultimately owns and controls companies. The UK is leading by example and our public register of company beneficial ownership, the Register of People with Significant Control, went live in June 2016. In June 2017, this requirement was extended to Scottish Limited Partnerships. We are now taking further steps to strengthen beneficial ownership transparency, including the reform of Companies House (the UK's registrar of companies) to ensure it plays a stronger role in the fight against economic crime.</p> <p>In 2019 the Crown Dependencies announced plans to implement their own publicly accessible registers of company beneficial ownership, in line with EU norms. All permanently inhabited Overseas Territories have</p>	

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					<p>also committed to introducing publicly accessible registers of company beneficial ownership, and Gibraltar has already implemented its publicly accessible register.</p> <p>Since 2018, the UK has spearheaded an international campaign that works towards a global norm of company beneficial ownership transparency by 2023. This Campaign has been strengthened by the Beneficial Ownership Leadership Group, launched at the 2019 Open Government Partnership Summit in Ottawa. This Group has developed the Beneficial Ownership Transparency Disclosure Principles which commit countries to developing open and free to access registers by 2023. In support of this work, the UK offers technical assistance to countries who wish to develop their own open beneficial ownership register.</p>	
134.156 (investigating conflict-related deaths in Northern Ireland)	Switzerland	Increase the necessary resources to the service of the Coroner to allow him to carry out impartial, swift and effective investigations on all	The Stormont House Agreement of December 2014 provided, amongst other measures, for the establishment of an independent Historical Investigations Unit to take forward investigations into outstanding troubles-related deaths.	Noted	Management of the coronial system is devolved and the responsibility of the Northern Ireland Executive. The Coroners Legacy Inquest Project was established in April 2019 to address the backlog of legacy inquests over a five-year period. The project	Supported

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		the deaths linked to the conflict in Northern Ireland.	<p>The UK Government has indicated £150m of additional funding will be available for the new institutions to deal with the past in a balanced and proportionate way. Following the “Fresh Start” Agreement of November 2015, areas of common ground in Northern Ireland were developed on the legacy institutions.</p> <p>The UK Government will continue to work with Northern Ireland parties, victims’ groups and other stakeholders to seek a resolution that will allow the Stormont House Agreement bodies to be established.</p> <p>Since the Northern Ireland Assembly election on 2 March 2017, the UK Government has been engaged in intensive talks with the political parties in Northern Ireland and the Irish Government to re-establish an inclusive devolved administration in Northern Ireland. The talks also seek to address the implementation of outstanding issues from previous Agreements. The UK Government is determined to take forward the legacy bodies in the Stormont House agreement to help to</p>		<p>involves 6 criminal justice organisations⁴¹ working collaboratively to complete outstanding legacy inquests. The PSNI, the Northern Ireland Courts and Tribunal Service and other relevant justice organisations have established the necessary processes and employed specialist staff to deliver the outstanding legacy inquests within the five-year plan, which formally commenced in April 2020. Of the 56 legacy inquest cases to be progressed, to date, four cases have been completed, five cases are awaiting findings (all of which relate to the Ballymurphy series of inquests), one in which findings have been given and a final legal ruling is awaited, and two cases are at hearing.</p> <p>Year One inquest hearings were due to commence in April 2020 however in response to the COVID-19 pandemic all non-urgent court business was adjourned by the Lord Chief Justice including legacy inquests. Work on recovery planning, in support of the Presiding Coroner, continues. All</p>	

⁴¹ NI Courts & Tribunals Service, Police Service for NI, Legal Services Agency, Forensic Services for NI, Public Prosecution Service and the Office of the Police Ombudsman for NI

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
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			provide better outcomes for victims and survivors of the Troubles. Discussions are ongoing.			cases listed in Year 1 have been allocated a Coroner or judge. Reviews of cases have continued through the use of remote hearing platforms. The UK Government will continue to work with Northern Ireland parties, victims' groups and other stakeholders to seek a resolution of Northern Ireland's legacy issues.
134.157 (implementing the Stormont House Agreement in Northern Ireland)	Australia	Continue negotiations on transitional justice issues and implement transitional justice elements of the Stormont House Agreement.	See the response to 134.56.	Noted	<p>The UK Government reiterates its commitment to reforming the current approach to addressing the legacy of Northern Ireland's past. Further discussions with the Northern Ireland parties; Irish Government and other key stakeholders will need to take place before progress can be made to address these complex and sensitive issues and help Northern Ireland society move forward.</p> <p>In 2018, the UK Government consulted publicly on the draft legislative proposals to implement the four new legacy institutions set out in the Stormont House Agreement. The consultation <i>Addressing the Legacy of Northern Ireland's Past</i> provided everyone with an interest with the opportunity to contribute to the discussion on the issues.</p>	Noted

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
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134.158 (reducing overcrowding and increasing prison safety)	Serbia	Take concrete measures to reduce the current and future prison population, as well as to improve prisoner safety.	<p>The UK Government wants a prison estate in England and Wales that is less crowded, better organised, and that is increasingly made up of modern, fit for purpose accommodation. The reform package reiterates the UK Government's commitment to a £1.3bn building programme to replace the most dilapidated prisons and create up to 10,000 modern prison places across the prison estate.</p> <p>The UK Government is also committed to improving safety and decreasing violence across the prison estate. An extra 2,500 frontline officers will provide the capacity for prison officers to play a dedicated officer role and build constructive relationships with prisoners, reduce levels of frustration and, ultimately, reduce levels of violence.</p> <p>The UK Government is providing over 3,400 body-worn cameras across the prison estate, alongside training to improve staff interactions with prisoners, and it has also announced new measures to enhance intelligence capability with a £3m intelligence hub to tackle gang crime behind bars.</p> <p>Any prisoner who commits an act of violence can expect to have action taken against them, including referral to the police</p>	Supported	<p>The UK Government is always assessing prison capacity, and in 2020, announced a £4billion investment into providing 18,000 additional prison places. These 18,000 places include 10,000 places being made available through the construction of four new prisons, the expansion of a number of other prisons, refurbishment of the existing prison estate and the completion of our ongoing prison builds at HMP Five Wells and at Glen Parva. The additional places will be available by the mid-2020s and provide safe, decent, and secure environments to support effective rehabilitation. The Prime Minister has also announced funding to deliver 1,000 temporary cells across the prison estate, to support maintenance and refurbishment programmes.</p> <p>The UK Government remains committed to improving safety and decreasing violence across the prison estate. In the 12 months to June 2020, all assault incidents fell by 19% when compared to the previous year. Despite the progress made, the level of violence remains too high. We are continuing work to address this by giving all staff the tools and training to help reduce</p>	Supported

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			<p>where they have committed an offence. The UK Government is working closely with the police and Crown Prosecution Service to ensure that offenders face swift justice and that courts have full evidence of the harm caused, in order that the strongest possible punishment may be imposed. Two new offences have been introduced through the Serious Crime Act 2015, namely: being in possession of a knife or other offensive weapon within a prison without authorisation; and throwing of items over a prison wall without authorisation.</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND</p> <p>The Scottish Government is committed to reducing the use of short-term imprisonment through the greater use of robust community sentences. Community sentences have accounted for a greater proportion of all penalties handed down by Scottish Courts every year since 2011-12 and the differential between the two has increased steadily over that time.</p> <p>In his 2015-16 Annual Report, Her Majesty's Inspector of Prisons for Scotland praised the way Scotland's prisons are run. Scotland's prison population has continued to fall over the past few years - the average daily population in 2015-16 stood at 7,675,</p>		<p>violence.</p> <p>The Offender Management in Custody (OMiC) model has been developed and is making improvements in the way prisons support, and case manage prisoners through their sentences by providing a key worker for each prisoner. Emerging findings from evaluating key work so far suggest it is improving staff and prisoner perceptions about how safe they feel in our prisons.</p> <p>The UK Government have also developed the Challenge, Support and Intervention Plan (CSIP), which is the national case management model for managing those who pose a raised risk of being violent and was mandated for use across the adult prison estate from November 2018. CSIP is being used in all prisons.</p> <p>To protect both staff and prisoners in very serious assaults, the UK Government are rolling out PAVA – a synthetic pepper spray – for use by prison officers. In parallel to this, we continue to support the effective use of the 6,000 Body Worn Video Cameras across the estate. The cameras provide high-quality evidence to support</p>	

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			<p>roughly 6% lower than the equivalent figure in 2011-12 (8,178).</p> <p>The Scottish Prison Service (SPS) operates a Violence Reduction Strategy whereby each prison has its own plan, which encompasses guidance on cell sharing risk assessments and anti-bullying measures. The SPS provides staff with appropriate training in order to detect, deter, de-escalate and, if necessary, protect themselves, prisoners and others from violent acts.</p>		<p>prosecutions.</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND: The Scottish Government is committed to taking action that will reduce the use of imprisonment and increase the use of community-based interventions. In 2019, the presumption against short sentences was extended to apply to custodial sentences of 12 months or less, and the most recent Programme for Government confirmed the Scottish Government's intention to build on this by promoting and expanding the availability of effective community interventions, including bringing forward regulations for the use of electronic monitoring on bail, supporting increased accessibility to supervised bail services, and publishing guidance on structured deferred sentences (which can provide a flexible and effective intervention in certain cases). Investment in community justice services has increased to more than £117m in 2020/21, an increase of over £6.5m. In order to respond to the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Scottish Government has also established a Recover, Renew, Transform (RRT) programme, overseen by a newly established</p>	

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					<p>Criminal Justice Board. Bringing together a range of key stakeholders, one of the workstreams of the RRT programme relates directly to community justice, prisons, and preventing reoffending, which will work across the system to ensure effective community interventions can continue to be delivered timeously and appropriately as court business increases, as well as considering the potential for reform.</p> <p>Looking further ahead, the Scottish Government intends to explore what longer term reforms may be required if the use of imprisonment is to be sustainably reduced.</p> <p>The early release of a limited number of short-sentence prisoners was conducted in Scotland as a direct response to the Covid-19 pandemic, to help the prison service and NHS staff to continue the safe operational running of prisons. These releases contributed to a reduction in the prison population, creating vital additional capacity, physical space and service provision, and allowed for greater use of single cells for self-isolation and shielding.</p> <p>The early release process was permitted under the Coronavirus (Scotland) Act 2020, and controlled by</p>	

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					<p>specific regulations that selected which prisoners could be released. 348 prisoners were released under the scheme between 4 May and 1 June. The Home Detention Curfew (HDC) process allows appropriate prisoners to complete the final months of a custodial sentence at home, on an electronic tag. The system assists the reintegration of individuals upon release and reduces the prison population. New guidance on the application of the HDC process in Scotland was published by the prison service in December 2019, having been developed with justice partners including the Risk Management Authority. The revised HDC regime is based on the best practice of detailed risk assessment of the individual, not on blanket presumptions over how it will be used, and there has been a slight increase in the number of those granted HDC since it was introduced. Justice officials are keeping the impact of the new guidance under close review and will work with SPS officials and other partners to ensure that HDC is used wherever appropriate.</p> <p>Fatal Accident Inquiries (FAI)</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>Where a death occurs in legal custody or, in respect of children, in secure accommodation a FAI is mandatory under the Inquiries into Fatal Accidents and Sudden Deaths etc. (Scotland) Act 2016 (the 2016 Act). There are possible exceptions to this, the Lord Advocate may decide an inquiry is not to be held if he/she is satisfied that the circumstances of the death have been sufficiently established in other proceedings, for example criminal proceedings.</p> <p>Fatal Accident Inquiries (FAIs) are held to establish the circumstances of sudden, suspicious or unexplained death and to consider what steps (if any) might be taken to prevent other deaths in similar circumstances. This can include a recommendation for future training or a change to current practices.</p> <p>Under the legislation Fatal Accident Inquiries (FAIs) remain as inquisitorial fact-finding hearings which do not apportion blame or guilt in a criminal or civil sense.</p> <p>Where there are recommendations, a response must be given to the Scottish</p>	

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					<p>Courts and Tribunals Service in writing either</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • setting out details of what the respondent has done or proposes to do in response to the recommendation, or • if the respondent has not done, and does not intend to do, anything in response to the recommendation, the reasons for that. <p>The decision to hold a FAI is entirely a matter for the Lord Advocate operating independently free from any political involvement.</p> <p>Where a fatal accident inquiry is held, consideration will be given to what steps (if any) might be taken to improve prisoner safety to prevent other deaths in similar circumstances.</p>	
134.159 (increasing prison safety)	United States of America	Initiate a prison reform plan to improve the deteriorating conditions in United Kingdom prisons, including addressing the increase in homicides and	See the response to 134.158.	Supported	<p>The UK's position remains unchanged from 2017.</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND: The Scottish Government is committed to modernising and improving Scotland's prison estate. Current infrastructure priorities are the development of a new female estate for</p>	Supported

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
		assaults.			<p>women and replacements for HMP Barlinnie and HMP Inverness. The new female custodial estate will consist of a smaller national prison for around 80 women, to be built at Cornton Vale, and up to five new community-based custodial units that will provide high quality, gender-specific custodial places for women. All of the custodial facilities will be managed by the SPS in partnership with multi-disciplinary teams to create a recovery-based ethos that responds to the specific needs of women in custody.</p> <p>Approval has been given by Glasgow City Council to grant planning permission in principle for a replacement for HMP Barlinnie on the site near Provanmill in Glasgow. The Scottish Government recognises the operational pressures facing the SPS and is looking at interim measures to improve conditions at HMP Barlinnie.</p> <p>Over the next 2 years, remedial works costing approximately £7.65m will be undertaken within HMP Barlinnie that will directly address the infrastructure concerns, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • removal of the reception holding 	

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					<p>cells and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • upgrades to the healthcare facilities at Barlinnie. • the refurbishment of the prisoner reception areas, • the partial refurbishment of the healthcare facility • Additional work to the healthcare and addictions facilities in the accommodation halls. <p>This work is expected to be complete by summer 2022 at the latest and will be phased to enable crucial services of the prison to remain running. Where possible some of the upgrades to the healthcare areas will be made available when completed.</p>	
134.160 (reducing prison overcrowding; increasing prison safety; tackling self-harm in prisons)	Canada	Review current prison safety and conditions and consider developing an action plan to address increases in self-harm and suicide as well as overcrowding in prisons in the United Kingdom.	<p>On tackling prison overcrowding and increasing prison safety, see the response to 134.158.</p> <p>The UK Government is working to develop a strategy to ensure that offender mental health issues are addressed (where appropriate) as part of community sentencing and early intervention programmes. Liaison and Diversion services identify and assess the mental health needs (alongside other vulnerabilities) at the point</p>	Supported	<p>On tackling prison overcrowding and increasing prison safety, the UK's position remains unchanged from 2017.</p> <p>The UK Government is implementing a wide-ranging programme of work to address the drivers of safety and help prisons to better identify and support those individuals at risk of harming themselves so that this can be managed and mitigated.</p> <p>The national Prison Safety Framework</p>	Supported

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			<p>of arrest. Assessments are shared with courts to inform sentencing. The aim is to divert people into treatment and away from custody (where appropriate). Roll-out across England by 2020/21 is essential to enable the increased uptake of community sentences.</p> <p>The UK Government is also rolling out new training across the prison estate to support staff to identify the risks and triggers of suicide and self-harm and understand what they can do to support prisoners at risk.</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND National Health Service/Scottish Prison Service (SPS) multi-disciplinary Mental Health Teams provide mental health care within prisons equivalent to the care provided for people in the community but designed to meet the recognised increased mental health needs of prisoners. The SPS Suicide Prevention Strategy, ‘Talk to Me’, is intended to enable the whole prison community to work together to identify vulnerable individuals, share information and encourage those “at risk” to accept help and support.</p>		<p>(5 Ps) is based around the 5 Principles (5Ps) of People, Physical, Population, Partnerships and Procedural to address the drivers and risks of violence, self-harm and self-inflicted deaths at a national, prison group and local level. The framework focuses on five areas where actions and activities can be brigaded to make the most improvements on prison safety. Assessment, Care in Custody and Teamwork (ACCT) is a multi-disciplinary case management system used in prisons to support people at risk of suicide and self-harm.</p> <p>Following a review of ACCT in 2015, changes to the case management system have been piloted and evaluated extensively. Changes have been implemented to pilot documents and processes at several points, improving the focus on individual needs and effective multi-disciplinary working. Following a pause while efforts were focused on responding to challenges presented by the Covid-19 pandemic, the changes to ACCT will be rolled-out in due course.</p> <p>In partnership with Samaritans, a charity aimed at providing emotional</p>	

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					<p>support to those in distress, the UK Government launched and rolled out a new suicide learning tool, designed to give staff more confidence in engaging with prisoners who may be at risk of suicide.</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND See the response to recommendation 134.158.</p> <p>The SPS accommodates individuals sent to prison by Scottish Courts and therefore has limited influence over the number of people in our care. However, on a daily basis SPS provides corporate oversight of the distribution of people across the prison estate to ensure that, wherever possible, this is managed equitably to reduce overcrowding in establishments. SPS tries to provide single cell occupancy, where possible, for those in its care. However, the increasingly complex prison population and the requirement to keep population groups apart presents challenges to its ability to provide single cell occupancy. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic people in custody have continued to be offered exercise in the open air and recreation time.</p>	

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					<p>In order to support continued family contact throughout the pandemic the SPS has introduced restricted mobile phones and virtual visits for those in our care to access. Physical visits have remained available, where permitted by Scottish Government advice.</p> <p>Action 15 of the Scottish Government's Mental Health Strategy 2017-27 outlines our commitment to funding 800 additional mental health workers in key settings, including all A&Es, all GP practices, every police station custody suite, and to our prisons, ensuring that local provision and support is at the heart of our plans. Funding is projected to rise to £35 million by the end of the 2021-22 financial year, subject to budget agreements being reached.</p> <p>The prison service takes all instances of self-harm and threats of suicide very seriously and constantly reviews its processes to ensure those at risk are identified and supported effectively. The development of a self-harm policy for the prison estate is underway.</p> <p>At the end of 2018, the Scottish Government commissioned Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Prisons</p>	

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					<p>for Scotland to undertake an independent expert review of mental health and other support for young people entering HM Prison & Young Offenders Institution Polmont. The report was published in May 2019,⁴² and the Scottish Government 2019-20 Programme for Government contains a commitment to take forward its recommendations to improve mental health services for young people at HMP&YOI Polmont.</p> <p>In January 2020, the Scottish Government provided an update on actions taken in response to the findings of that review to the relevant Parliamentary Committees and other stakeholders.</p> <p>Since the publication of the Expert Review there has been significant investment in staffing and staff training, at HMP YOI Polmont in particular, and suicide prevention processes have been reviewed.</p> <p>In March 2019, the Scottish Government commissioned an</p>	

⁴² <https://www.prisonsofscotland.gov.uk/publications/report-expert-review-provision-mental-health-services-hmp-yoi-polmont>

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			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>Independent Review into the Delivery of Forensic Mental Health Services. The principal aim is to review the delivery of forensic mental health services in hospitals, prisons and wider community settings. The review was originally expected to report by June 2020. However, given the suspension of the review's work from March to mid-July 2020 due to the coronavirus pandemic, this has not been possible. The review now expects to report in January 2021.</p> <p>At the end of August 2020, the Review published its interim report. In relation to prisons the report noted 'In seeking to look specifically at the 'forensic' aspects of mental health services in prisons it became clear that there was little specialist forensic provision...' As such, mental health services in prisons will no longer be covered by this Review. It is however, recognised that mental health provision in prisons requires further examination and the Scottish Government are working to identify an alternative method to review the delivery of mental health services in prisons.</p> <p>SPS adopt a range of trauma informed</p>	

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					<p>approaches for young people in custody. In response this review, SPS stopped the routine searching of all young people under 18 in custody and have commenced work on a new mental health strategy including a bespoke component for young people in custody.</p> <p>The Scottish Government's Suicide Prevention Action Plan (August 2018) includes 10 actions to reduce the rate of deaths by suicide in Scotland. The Scottish Government has established a National Suicide Prevention Leadership Group (NSPLG) to drive forward the implementation of each action. Action 10 of the plan commits the Scottish Government to work with the NSPLG and partners to develop appropriate reviews into all deaths by suicide and ensure that the lessons from reviews are shared with NSPLG and partners and acted on. Work is ongoing test and to develop a single review system. On 10 September, the NSPLG's United to Prevent Suicide campaign launched. The campaign is reaching out across social media, television advertising, Transport Scotland signage, and its own website.</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>On 7 November 2019, the Cabinet Secretary for Justice announced a review into the handling of deaths in prison custody,⁴³ to report in Summer 2020. The independent review is being led by the HM Chief Inspector of Prisons, and will be co-chaired by the Chair of the Scottish Human Rights Commission (SHRC) the review to ensure that an independent human rights-based perspective is firmly built into the review- It will examine the operational policies, practice and training in place within the SPS and NHS relevant to deaths of prisoners.</p> <p>The SHRC will conduct a comprehensive analysis of the relevant human rights legal standards, at both the European and international levels.</p> <p>Some preliminary work for the review commenced in February and to date the literature review is in the final stages of being commissioned.</p> <p>The policy review of the SPS and NHS policies and procedures is underway</p>	

⁴³ <https://news.gov.scot/news/handling-of-deaths-in-prison>

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					and despite the significant pressure the SPS and NHS are under, the response for information have been received and are being mapped and analysed by a small short life working group	
134.161 (prisoner voting rights)	Czechia	Revoke the blanket ban on prisoners' exercise of their right to vote in order to comply with the rulings of international courts on this matter.	<p>The Court's 2016 Analysis of Statistics reports that at the end of 2016 only 0.3% of applications under consideration were applications against the UK. At the end of 2016, the UK was responsible for only 0.2% of pending Court judgments before the Council of Europe Committee of Ministers.</p> <p>The UK Government is clear that the UK's policy on prisoner voting is well established and remains a matter for the UK to determine. With regard to the judgments on the UK's ban on prisoner voting, the UK Government is continuing to engage in dialogue with Strasbourg on this issue.</p> <p>The Council of Europe will review the UK's ban on prisoners voting again later in 2017.</p>	Noted	<p>The UK Government believes that when a citizen commits a crime that is sufficiently serious to detain them in prison, they have broken their contract with society, and to such an extent that they should not have the right to vote in prison. Prison means the loss of a number of rights and freedoms – not least the right to liberty and freedom of association. The loss of voting rights whilst in prison is thus a proportionate curtailment of such civic rights.</p> <p>The UK Government has now implemented a package of administrative measures in response to the <i>Hirst</i> (and subsequent) judgments. Those measures include the amending of prison guidance to address an anomaly where offenders who were released back into the community before the end of the custodial part of their sentence under the home detention curfew scheme (HDC) could vote, but those in the community released on temporary licence (ROTL)</p>	Supported

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					could not vote. On 4 December 2018, the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe noted 'with satisfaction' the administrative measures proposed, including that set out above. The Secretariat concluded that they constituted "an adequate response" to the <i>Hirst</i> (and subsequent) judgments.	
134.162 (treatment of detainees)	Japan	Continue its efforts to improve treatment of inmates.	See the response to 134.158.	Supported	The UK position remains unchanged from 2017. IN SCOTLAND: HM Chief Inspector of Prisons for Scotland's Annual Report (November 2020) noted that: "Overall, our monitoring and inspections indicate that prisons remain stable, orderly and reasonably calm."	Supported
134.163 (welfare)	Nepal	Ensure the welfare of all segments of society in an inclusive manner, including those of migrants.	The Welfare Reform Act 2012 and the Welfare Reform and Work Act 2016 are the centrepieces of the UK Government's strategy. The simplification and reform of the welfare system includes, amongst other measures, the introduction of "Universal Credit" alongside the abolition of six previous sources of financial support with a single monthly payment for those on a low	Supported	The UK position remains generally unchanged from 2017. IN SCOTLAND: Please see the response to 134.121 for information on the refugee integration strategy.	Supported

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
			<p>income whether in work or not. The strategy encourages those who can work to find and keep work and to increase their earnings rather than relying on benefits. Claimants are only asked to meet reasonable requirements to help them prepare for or find work, which take into account their individual circumstances and capability, including health conditions, disability and caring responsibilities. These requirements are clearly explained and agreed with claimants.</p> <p>On the rights of migrant workers, see the response to 134.121.</p>			
134.164 (combating poverty; increasing social mobility)	Singapore	Provide more targeted social policies to help disadvantaged families, and in particular their children, so as to boost social mobility.	<p>The Prime Minister is clear about the need to build a country where “no one and no community is left behind”. The UK Government recognises that that the root causes of poverty are not just financial; and that to make meaningful difference to the lives of the most disadvantaged children and families, it must go beyond the safety net provided by the welfare system.</p> <p>This is why it replaced income-related child poverty targets with statutory measures of parental worklessness and children’s educational attainment – the areas that can make the biggest difference to children’s outcomes.</p>	Supported	<p>The UK Government is committed to tackling child poverty through its reformed welfare system that incentivises employment while providing a strong safety net for those who need it.</p> <p>Its long-term ambition is to level up across the country and tackle child poverty by supporting parents to enter and progress in work wherever possible. This approach is based on clear evidence about the importance of parental employment in tackling poverty and in ensuing better educational and employment outcomes for children.</p> <p>This approach is underpinned by two</p>	Supported

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
			<p>On 4 April 2017, the Government published “Improving Lives: Helping Workless Families”. This provided the a framework for its continuing focus on improving children’s outcomes, now and in the future.</p> <p>IN NORTHERN IRELAND:</p> <p>The Northern Ireland Executive published its Child Poverty Strategy in March 2016. An Annual Report for 2015/16 was laid in the Northern Ireland Assembly in November 2016.</p> <p>The Department for Communities administers a comprehensive benefit uptake programme to ensure that every individual and household across Northern Ireland is receiving all the social security benefits and other government supports and services to which they and their families are entitled. The current benefit uptake programme aims to generate £40million in additional annual benefits by 2019.</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND:</p> <p>The Scottish Government is committed to tackling poverty and inequality. It recently published a Fairer Scotland Action Plan which sets out 50 concrete actions over the course of the current Parliament, such as</p>		<p>statutory measures of parental employment and children’s educational attainment – the areas that are the key to delivering improved outcomes for children.</p> <p>The UK Government has also set out (in Improving Lives: Helping Workless Family, 2017) seven further non-statutory indicators to track progress on other areas that can affect disadvantaged families and children.</p> <p>The UK Government publishes annual data on low-income households (drawn from the Households Below Average Income survey in line with its statutory commitment). Pupils from disadvantaged households – those who have claimed free school meals in the past 6 years – attract additional funding to their schools, for extra support to tackle the persistent attainment gap between poor pupils and the rest. The Pupil Premium grant is non-ringfenced funding, spent by school leaders to address barriers to achievement including those arising from economic deprivation. Since its introduction in 2011, disadvantaged pupils have closed the gap with non-</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
			<p>bringing forward a Child Poverty Bill (introduced on 9 February 2017) setting ambitious 2030 income targets; establishing a new Best Start Grant aimed at low income families with children; tackling the poverty premium; and delivering at least 50,000 affordable homes.</p> <p>The Scottish Government publication ‘Creating a Fairer Scotland: Social Security’ sets out how new social security powers, despite their limited scope, will provide opportunities to develop different policies for Scotland that are fairer and help tackle inequalities and poverty, ensuring that people are treated with respect and dignity.</p> <p>In November 2016 the Scottish Government published its response to the Working Group on Food Poverty’s report, ‘Dignity: Ending Hunger Together in Scotland’ (30 June 2016). Notably, a commitment was made to explore with stakeholders how the right to food could be enshrined within Scots Law.</p> <p>IN WALES:</p> <p>The key commitments outlined in the Welsh Government’s new Programme for Government will help drive the tackling poverty agenda over the next term of government, providing direction for the</p>		<p>disadvantaged peers by about 10%, against a background of rising standards. This means better prospects for disadvantaged pupils for a financially secure future.</p> <p>In October 2016, the Secretary of State for Education also announced a new social mobility package. At the heart of this strategy is the Opportunity Areas programme, a targeted three year, £72 million support programme aimed at improving the life chances of young people in 12 local areas which typically face entrenched and widespread social, economic and cultural challenges. The opportunity area programme aims to help more children and young people achieve their full potential through targeted funding in 12 areas facing the biggest challenges to social mobility. Each area is working in partnership with local nurseries, schools, businesses and charities to overcome the barriers that hold children and young people back. An £18 million extension to the Opportunity Area programme was announced in November 2019. Year 4 of the Opportunity Areas</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
			<p>work which will support disadvantaged children to get the best possible start in life.</p> <p>The 2010 Children and Families (Wales) Measure will continue to provide the legislative framework for tackling child poverty in Wales.</p> <p>The Welsh Government's Child Poverty Strategy specifically recognises the need to support those groups who are most at risk of living in poverty. It includes specific objectives for building a strong economy which support the poverty agenda; reducing worklessness; increasing skills amongst parents and young people; reducing inequalities in health and education outcomes; and supporting low income households.</p>		<p>programme will focus on supporting young people following the COVID-19 pandemic as well as working towards the original priorities set out in delivery plans.</p> <p>The government is also committed to supporting all children and have seen outcomes rise. Evidence tells us that what happens in children's earliest years, before they start school, can have a huge influence on later outcomes. This is why the Department for Education has committed over £60 million since 2018 to programmes to improve early language and literacy as a key factor in children's development and later life wellbeing. The Department also reformed the early years curriculum and assessment requirements set out in the Early Years Foundation Stage statutory framework, in order to support better outcomes for all children.</p> <p>IN NORTHERN IRELAND: In January 2020, the New Decade, New Approach document stated that the Northern Ireland Executive's new Programme for Government could be</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>underpinned by key supporting strategies including an Anti-Poverty Strategy and a Child Poverty Strategy. The Department for Communities has now commenced work on the development of the Anti-Poverty Strategy with the aim to address barriers and inequalities in society and to fulfil these commitments. It is anticipated that the Strategy will be published by the end of 2021, subject to Executive agreement.</p> <p>The Northern Ireland Executive published its 2016/19 Child Poverty Strategy in March 2016. The purpose of the Strategy is to make sure government works collectively to tackle the issues faced by children and families impacted by poverty. It focuses on ensuring that families receive the appropriate level of economic support; that children are healthy, educated and feel safe and secure in a stable living environment. Communities Minister Carál Ní Chuilín recently announced the extension of the Strategy to May 2022. In her announcement she said that this extension allows time for engagement on how we address Child Poverty in the longer term and whether including</p>	

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			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>Child Poverty within the new Anti-Poverty Strategy is the right approach or if a standalone Child Poverty Strategy is required.</p> <p>The most recent Child Poverty Annual Report, for 2019/20, was laid in the Northern Ireland Assembly in September 2020.</p> <p>The Department for Communities Make the Call Wraparound team connects Northern Ireland customers with benefits and a range of other supports and services. The Maximising Income through the Uptake aimed to generate £40 million in additional annual benefits by 2019. By March 2019 this target had been exceeded and we reached in excess of £101m. In addition, Make the Call works across Government and the wider Community and Voluntary sector to continue to build a partnership portfolio and thereby enhance the offer of supports and services.</p> <p>The Department of Education in collaboration with other NI Executive Departments is continuing its efforts to reduce the impact of social disadvantage on educational outcomes. This takes the form of significant</p>	

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					<p>investment in school budgets through Targeting Social Need and well as evidence-based programmes such as Extended Schools and Full Service Programmes. New interventions have been established in 2019 in specific geographical areas where the need is greatest.</p> <p>The Department of Education also provides a range of assistance to eligible children and young people most in need including: 1) Free school meals at a cost of around £50 million per annum; 2) School uniform grants of approximately £5.3 million per year, and; 3) Education Maintenance Allowance (joint Department for Economy and Department of Education policy) which aims to increase employability prospects. The Children’s Services Co-operation Act (Northern Ireland) 2015 places a duty on the Northern Ireland Executive to adopt a Children and Young People’s Strategy setting out how it proposes to improve the well-being of children and young people.</p> <p>The 10-year Children and Young People’s Strategy, which is currently being developed, includes the outcome that children and young people experience economic and</p>	

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					<p>environmental well-being. Key areas of focus in the strategy will be children and young people living in areas of deprivation; families experiencing poverty; and improving educational and training opportunities for young people.</p> <p>An Expert Panel in respect of persistent educational underachievement linked to social disadvantage was appointed in September 2020 to bring forward a costed Action Plan by 31 May 2021.</p> <p>IN WALES:</p> <p>Discretionary Assistance Fund The Discretionary Assistance Fund (DAF) is a demand driven grant fund offering payments or in-kind support (essential household items and white goods) to provide urgent assistance to people to safeguard health and well-being.</p> <p>The Discretionary Assistance Fund (DAF) provides two types of non-repayable grant support: Emergency Assistance Payments (EAP) – to provide assistance with essential living costs such as food, gas and electricity where an individual has experienced an emergency or disaster. Anyone over the age of 16 can be considered eligible for these payments.</p>	

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			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>Individual Assistance Payment (IAP) - to meet an urgent identified need that enables or supports potentially vulnerable citizens to establish themselves or remain living independently in the community.</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND: The Tackling Child Poverty Delivery Plan sets out concrete and ambitious action to help boost household incomes, reduce costs and mitigate the impacts of poverty for children in line with the ambitious targets set through the Child Poverty (Scotland) Act 2017.</p> <p>Since September 2017, the Scottish Government has invested over £18 million to provide access to period products for all of Scotland's 400,000 school pupils and students, and in communities across all 32 local authorities in Scotland, with particular regard for those on low incomes. Over 80,000 people on low incomes have benefitted from targeted support. Scottish Government has worked hard to create a culture of openness around the issue of menstruation and access to period products. The Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018 placed a duty on the Scottish</p>	

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					Ministers to create a Social Security Charter. Its purpose is to offer a more detailed expression of the principles, describing the actions the system will take to ensure they are realised in practice. The Charter was published in January 2019.	
134.165 (reviewing equality legislation)	Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela	Simplify, harmonize and reinforce the current legal norms on equality in favour of those most vulnerable.	See the response to 134.125. On the measures to combat poverty and increase social mobility, see the response to 134.164.	Noted	On the measures to combat poverty and increase social mobility, see the response to 134.164. See response to 134.125 and 134.164	Noted
134.166 (access to public services)	Côte d'Ivoire	Strengthen measures to foster access of vulnerable populations to public services and social and health services.	On the welfare reforms, see the response to 134.163. The NHS remains a universal service for all eligible residents, based on need, not ability to pay. The UK Government wants everyone to have the same opportunity to have a long and healthy life. The UK Government's vision, underpinned by legal duties in England, is for measurable and sustained reductions in health inequalities with a focus on improving the health of the poorest fastest. The UK Government takes a comprehensive and strategic approach to tackling health inequalities including promoting healthier lifestyles and addressing the wider causes of ill-health. Action on health inequalities is embedded in the reformed English health system and the legal	Supported	The UK position remains unchanged from 2017. IN SCOTLAND: See the response to recommendation 134.163 IN WALES: The Social Service and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 (2014 Act) came into force on 6 th April 2016 and aims to improve the well-being of people who need care and support and carers who need support by transforming the way that social services are delivered across Wales. The Stakeholder Evaluation Group was established in July 2017 and includes a range of external stakeholder	Noted

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			<p>duties cover both access to, and outcomes from, services. These are underpinned by planning, assessment and reporting requirements.</p> <p>IN NORTHERN IRELAND: A cross-cutting public health framework Making Life Better provides direction for actions to improve health and reduce health inequalities. It aims to put in place strengthened collaboration on the underlying factors which determine health and wellbeing, and is underpinned by a number of health promotion strategies and action plans, for example in relation to Tobacco, Alcohol and Drug Misuse and other health priorities.</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND: The Scottish Government recognises the need for a shift in emphasis from dealing with the consequences of health inequalities to tackling the underlying causes - ending poverty, promoting fair wages, supporting families and improving physical and social environments.</p> <p>Scottish Government measures such as investment in affordable housing, free school meals and continuing commitments to free prescriptions, concessionary travel and free personal care, are the right</p>		<p>representatives and key Welsh Government policy leads. To ensure consistency and continuity, some of these stakeholder representatives were drawn from previous stakeholder groups who were actively involved in the development and/or implementation of the Act.</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
			<p>approach, coupled with decisive action to address alcohol consumption, reduce smoking rates, encourage active living and healthy eating, and investment to improve mental health services.</p> <p>Integration of health and social care has been introduced to change the way key services are delivered, and ensuring that those who use services get the right care and support whatever their needs, at any point in their care journey.</p> <p>IN WALES: The Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 provides the legal framework to deliver the Welsh Government's commitment to transform social services in Wales, and to improve the well-being outcomes of people who need care and support, and carers who need support.</p> <p>There are duties on any person exercising functions under the Act to have regard to the CRC. In addition, local authorities must also have due regard to the CRPD.</p>			
134.167 (introducing a universal basic income)	Haiti	As a follow-up to recommendations 110.39 and 110.103, consider along with stakeholders the	<p>The UK Government has no such plans.</p> <p>On welfare reforms, see the response to 134.163.</p>	Noted	The National Living Wage initially set at £7.20 has risen to £8.21 from 1 April 2019. The independent Low Pay Commission has projected that nearly 1.8 million workers may benefit from	Noted

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
		<p>possibility of a universal basic income to replace the existing social protection system (Recommendations 110.39 and 110.103 of the second cycle).</p>	<p>The UK Government has also introduced over time two key measures to support those on low wages: the National Minimum Wage; and, more recently, the National Living Wage.</p> <p>Workers must be at least of school leaving age (that is, 16) to get the National Minimum Wage. They must be 25 or over to get the National Living Wage. Contracts for payments below the minimum wage are not legally binding.</p> <p>The National Living Wage became law on 1 April 2016 and was initially set at £7.20. From 1 April 2017 this has risen to £7.50. The independent Low Pay Commission has projected that 1.7 million workers may benefit from the National Living Wage increasing to £7.50 from April 2017.</p> <p>From April 2017, the National Minimum Wage rates also increased - for example the rate for 21 to 24 year olds increased to £7.05 from £6.95. The UK Government expects increases to the National Minimum Wage to benefit around 405,000 people.</p>		<p>the National Living Wage increasing to £8.21 from April 2019.</p> <p>From April 2019, the National Minimum Wage rates also increased - for example the rate for 21 to 24-year olds increased to £7.70 from £7.38. The UK Government expects increases to the National Minimum Wage to benefit around 350,000 people.</p> <p>The independent Low Pay Commission monitors the impacts of the National Minimum Wage and the National Living Wage and can make recommendations to the UK Government accordingly. The UK Government has also introduced measures to monitor the gender pay gap (see the response to 134.175).</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND: In Scotland, £250,000 has been awarded to four local authorities⁴⁴ to explore the feasibility of introducing a Citizen's Basic Income. In partnership with NHS Health Scotland and the Improvement Service, the group is</p>	

⁴⁴ Comprising City of Edinburgh Council, Glasgow City Council, Fife Council and North Ayrshire Council. Updates from the group are provided at <https://basicincome.scot/>

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
			The independent Low Pay Commission monitors the impacts of the National Minimum Wage and the National Living Wage, and can make recommendations to the UK Government accordingly. The UK Government has also introduced measures to monitor the gender pay gap (see the response to 134.175).		considering the costs, benefits and impacts of such a scheme. In addition, the group will develop suitable pilot models to test their findings. The group will report to the Scottish Ministers in March 2020, after which Ministers will consider the next steps.	
134.168 (combating poverty)	Syrian Arab Republic	Develop clear national strategies for the eradication of the poverty of about four million child, as indicate in the United Kingdom UPR Summary report of the Stakeholders submissions.	See the response to 134.164.	Supported	See the response to 134.164. IN SCOTLAND: The Scottish Government has set in statute its ambition to eradicate child poverty in Scotland, underpinned by ambitious targets to be met by 2030. In addition to setting targets to reduce child poverty levels, the Child Poverty (Scotland) Act 2017 ⁴⁵ creates a statutory framework for action, requiring the Scottish Ministers to publish Tackling Child Poverty Delivery Plans (in 2018, 2022 and 2026) and report annually on progress made. In recognition of the need for local action, the Act also requires local authorities and Health Boards to report annually on the steps they have taken	Noted

⁴⁵ <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2017/6/contents>

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					to reduce child poverty and on the actions they propose to take in future. The first Tackling Child Poverty Delivery Plan, <i>Every Child, Every Chance</i> , covering the period 2018-22, was published in March 2018, and the first annual report was published in June 2019 ⁴⁶ and the second in August 2020 ⁴⁷ .	
134.169 (reviewing the Equality Act 2010)	Sri Lanka	Further strengthen its 'Equality Act', in particular, to provide better health services to groups in vulnerable situations including migrants.	See the response to 134.125. On the rights of migrant workers, see the response to 134.121.	Noted	The UK position remains unchanged from 2017.	Noted
134.170 (abortion legislation in Northern Ireland)	Iceland	Ensure that the law governing access to abortion in Northern Ireland fully complies with international human rights law, by decriminalising abortion and ensuring access to abortion in	Criminal law is a matter devolved to the Northern Ireland Executive and Assembly. The law on abortion is different to the other jurisdictions in the UK. Work has been undertaken by an Inter-Departmental Working Group in Northern Ireland to consider the handling of cases involving fatal foetal abnormality. That	Noted	As a result of the Northern Ireland (Executive Formation etc) Act 2019, access to abortion was decriminalised in Northern Ireland from 22 October 2019; and a criminal moratorium came into effect, preventing the continuation of any investigations or prosecutions in this regard.	Supported

⁴⁶ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/tackling-child-poverty-delivery-plan-first-year-progress-report-2018-19/pages/1/>

⁴⁷ www.gov.scot./tackling-child-poverty-second-year-progress-report-2019-20

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
		cases of severe and fatal foetal anomalies and where the pregnancy is a result of rape or incest.	<p>work extended to consideration of legislative reform. Proposals were developed by the group and were submitted to the Ministers of Health and Justice in Northern Ireland prior to the dissolution of the Northern Ireland Assembly in early 2017.</p> <p>The proposals will be resubmitted to Ministers and the Northern Ireland Executive, subject to a return to devolved government in Northern Ireland.</p>		<p>A new law on access to abortion services in Northern Ireland has now been in place since 31 March 2020. This provides access in the cases set out in paragraphs 85 of the 2018 UN CEDAW report, <i>Inquiry concerning the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland under article 8 of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women</i>, including in cases of severe and fatal fetal abnormality, and rape and incest.</p> <p>Over 719 abortions have been provided in Northern Ireland since the new law came into effect from 31 March 2020.</p>	
134.171 (reproductive healthcare services)	Myanmar	Take necessary measures to provide reproductive healthcare services for women and girls in line with its CEDAW obligations.	<p>The UK is taking action to improve sexual and reproductive health outcomes.</p> <p>In England action to improve sexual and reproductive health for all people is underpinned by the Framework for Sexual Health Improvement in England (2013). The Framework adopts a life-course approach recognising that people’s sexual health needs change over time. It highlights key objectives and ambitions to improve sexual health and wellbeing for individuals and communities throughout their life. Its objectives are: build knowledge and</p>	Noted	<p>The UK government introduced new legislation through the Children and Social Work Act 2017 which has made Relationships Education compulsory for all primary school pupils, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) compulsory for all secondary school pupils, and Health Education compulsory for pupils in all state-funded schools from the 2020/21 academic year.</p> <p>In primary schools, age-appropriate Relationships Education</p>	Supported

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
			<p>resilience among young people; rapid access to high quality services; people remain healthy as they age; prioritise prevention; reduce rates of STIs (sexually transmitted infections) among people of all ages; reduce onward transmission of HIV and avoidable deaths from it; reduce unintended pregnancies among all women of fertile age; continue to reduce the rate of under-16 and under 18 conceptions.</p> <p>There are also three sexual health indicators in the Public Health Outcomes Framework: reducing late diagnosis of HIV; reducing the number of chlamydia cases among 16-24 year olds; reducing the teenage conception rate.</p> <p>The UK Government announced on 29 June 2017 that payment for abortion services in England for women usually resident in Northern Ireland will now be met by the UK Government. The law on abortion in Northern Ireland itself remains a devolved matter and is a decision for the Northern Ireland Executive and Assembly.</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND</p> <p>The Scottish Government works with NHS Boards and local councils to ensure that appropriate sex and relationships education</p>		<p>involves supporting children to learn about what healthy relationships are and their importance, as well as how to develop mutually respectful relationships in all contexts, including online. This provides a foundation for RSE at secondary school.</p> <p>In secondary schools, this broadens to become age-appropriate Relationships and Sex Education and will include factual knowledge around sex, sexual health and sexuality, set firmly within the context of relationships.</p> <p>It should cover contraception, sexually transmitted infections, developing intimate relationships and resisting pressure to have sex. We expect young people to learn what a positive, healthy relationship can look like, about consent and how to keep themselves safe in a variety of situations.</p> <p>Pupils will also be taught the key aspects of the law relating to sex. These key aspects should include the age of consent, what consent is and is not, the definitions and recognition of rape, sexual assault and harassment, and choices permitted around pregnancy.</p>	

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			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
			<p>is delivered in all schools in Scotland. Relationships, sexual health and parenthood (RSHP) education is an integral part of the health and wellbeing area of the school curriculum in Scotland. Learning about RSHP begins early on in primary school (age 4/5) and continues up to age 15-18. Schools will equip young people with information on a wide range of issues, depending on their age and stage. They will be encouraged to discuss these subjects with their peers and parents to help them gain knowledge and the skills to become confident in making healthy lifestyle decisions for themselves. Professionals within schools are able to signpost for access to condoms, routine and emergency contraception where appropriate.</p> <p>IN WALES</p> <p>The Sexual Health and Wellbeing Action Plan for Wales 2010-2015 resulted in a number of service and outcome improvements for women such as reduction in rates of teenage conceptions and the delivery of integrated sexual health services across Wales. Building on the success of the action plan, the Welsh Government is now conducting a comprehensive review of sexual health services which will inform the work programme of a newly formed Sexual</p>		<p>RSE will also cover the concepts of, and laws relating to, sexual consent, sexual exploitation, abuse, grooming, coercion, harassment, and domestic abuse and how these can affect current and future relationships.</p> <p>The focus on healthy relationships in both primary and secondary will help children who are experiencing or witnessing unhealthy relationships know where to seek help and report abuse as well as addressing inappropriate behaviour, harassment, abuse, or exploitation.</p> <p>Since January 2020, the Department for Education has provided access to free period products for primary schools, secondary schools and colleges in England.</p> <p>IN NORTHERN IRELAND:</p> <p>See response to 134.170 in relation to access to abortion services. The Government is continuing to work with relevant Northern Ireland departments to ensure that all of the recommendations under paragraphs 85 and 86 of the 2018 UN CEDAW</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
			Health Programme Board. The review will aim to improve access to sexual and reproductive health information and services for all women.		<p>report, <i>Inquiry concerning the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland under article 8 of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women</i>, are implemented in Northern Ireland.</p> <p>In terms of wider issues around reproductive healthcare services for women and girls consistent with CEDAW obligations, as health is a devolved matter in Northern Ireland, these issues are for the Northern Ireland Executive to take forward.</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND: The Scottish Government is taking action to ensure rapid and easy access to post-natal contraception by funding Ayrshire and Arran and Greater Glasgow and Clyde NHS Boards to support 'post-natal contraception pilots'. Building on the work already taken forward by NHS Lothian, these pilots are intended to help set up universal access to post-natal contraception in these Board areas, as well as providing learning and examples of good practice.</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>The Scottish Government wants to further build on this, so that women all across Scotland have the same access to post-natal contraception, should they wish it, immediately post-delivery. To support this we funded NHS Lothian to coordinate a national learning event for Scotland-wide stakeholders and to develop a national learning tool accessible to everyone in NHS Scotland.</p> <p>The Scottish Government is committed to ensuring that women who choose longer acting, reversible methods of contraception are able to access them quickly and simply and continue to monitor uptake and potential barriers across Scotland. We are also committed to ensuring that sexual health services meet the needs of young people. Through a partnership with three NHS Boards, research is being conducted into young people's attitudes towards condoms and contraception. A final report and recommendations is due in early 2021 and will inform the development of sexual health services going forward. Scotland's Curriculum for Excellence (CfE) is the national approach to learning and teaching for young people</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>aged 3 to 18 in Scotland. It provides significant flexibility, within broad national guidelines, for teachers to develop lessons which best meet the needs of individual learners, including advising girls about their reproductive health and availability of reproductive health services. Teachers, head teachers and other professional educational practitioners are best placed to decide what is taught in Scotland's schools.</p> <p>Relationships, sexual health and parenthood (RSHP) education is an integral part of the health and wellbeing curriculum and it is for local authorities and schools to decide how best to deliver the curriculum based on local needs and circumstances. Learning about RSHP education begins early on in primary school and continues up to Secondary 4-6. Schools will equip young people with information on a wide range of issues, depending on their age and stage. This aspect of the curriculum is intended to enable children and young people to learn about their bodies, as well as how to build positive relationships as they grow older. It should present facts in an objective, balanced and sensitive</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>manner within a framework of sound values and an awareness of the law.</p> <p>An online RSHP teaching resource was launched in September 2019 to help strengthen the delivery of RSHP education across Scotland. The resource provides 133 learning activities for use in all education settings and is aligned with CfE. Topics include sexual health and reproduction, healthy relationships, consent, emotional wellbeing, equalities, gender and parenthood. These are areas identified by children and young people themselves.</p> <p>The Scottish Government has taken action to fund access to free period products for those attending schools, colleges and universities, to support equality, dignity and rights for those who menstruate and to ensure that lack of access to products does not impact on an individual's ability to fully participate in education at all levels. The Scottish Government has also provided funding for access to products for those not in education. Since September 2017, the Scottish Government has invested over £18 million to provide access to period</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					products for all of Scotland’s 400,000 school pupils and students, and in communities across all 32 local authorities in Scotland, with particular regard for those on low incomes. It has worked hard to create a culture of openness around the issue of menstruation and access to period products. Increasing the availability of period products in a range of spaces – including in private businesses, sports clubs and libraries – will not only tackle so-called “period poverty” but will also achieve wider gender equality through making the products available to all those who menstruate.	
134.172 (abortion legislation in Northern Ireland)	Sweden	Ensure that the law governing access to abortion in Northern Ireland fully complies with international human rights law, by decriminalizing abortion and ensuring access to abortion in cases of severe and fatal foetal anomalies and where the pregnancy is a result of rape or incest.	See the response to 134.170.	Noted	See response to 134.170	Supported
134.173 (reproductive)	Canada	Encourage the devolved government	See the response to 134.170.	Noted	Under section 9 of the Northern Ireland (Executive Formation etc) Act 2019,	Noted

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
healthcare services in Northern Ireland)		of Northern Ireland to align its legal framework on sexual and reproductive health and rights, and its reproductive health services with the rest of the United Kingdom.			<p>the UK Government has a duty to implement the recommendations in paragraphs 85 and 86 of the 2018 UN CEDAW Report, <i>Inquiry concerning the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland under article 8 of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women</i>, in respect of Northern Ireland, which includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing non-biased, scientifically sound and rights-based counselling and information on sexual and reproductive health services, including on all methods of contraception and access to abortion; and • Ensuring the accessibility and affordability of sexual and reproductive health services and products, including on safe and modern contraception, including oral, emergency, long-term and permanent forms of contraception, and adopt a protocol to facilitate access at pharmacies, clinics and hospitals. <p>The UK Government will continue working with the Northern Ireland Civil Service and relevant authorities to</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
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					<p>see that these recommendations are implemented in respect of Northern Ireland.</p> <p>Wider reproductive health services in Northern Ireland, and any reforms, are a matter for the Northern Ireland Executive to consider and take forward.</p>	
134.174 (social inclusion in the education system in Northern Ireland)	Botswana	Step up efforts to promote racial equality and social inclusion in the education system in Northern Ireland.	<p>The Department of Education in Northern Ireland consistently focuses on raising education standards for all and through its policies, programmes and services aims to help every young person to reach their full potential. Specific policies and services exist to promote equality and inclusion and support children with additional educational needs, such as newcomer pupils and Traveller and Roma children.</p> <p>In Northern Ireland, the curriculum gives teachers flexibility over how they deliver the curriculum to meet pupils' needs. The minimum to be taught is prescribed in legislation as Areas of Learning and a number of these provide opportunities for schools to explore citizenship and diversity.</p>	Supported	<p>A consultation on the 'Supporting Newcomer Pupils' policy has concluded. The aim of the review is to consider the effectiveness of current policy and associated services on Newcomer pupils and their parents; explore options for improving support to Newcomer pupils; and develop and agree a forward-looking Newcomer policy which delivers the best outcomes for Newcomer pupils and their families, helping these children to achieve their full educational potential. Subject to Ministerial approval, a new policy will be published during the 2020-21 school year.</p> <p>Included in the advice and support offered by the Newcomer Service of the Intercultural Education Service is welcoming new arrivals and promoting intercultural awareness in schools.</p> <p>This recommendation is already</p>	Supported

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					supported within the Northern Ireland Curriculum. The curriculum provides teachers with flexibility to deliver the curriculum to meet their pupils' needs. The minimum taught content is set out as Areas of Learning and a number of these provide opportunities for schools to explore citizenship and diversity. This approach enables schools to review and update their teaching and resources to reflect societal change, including issues around racism and other forms of discrimination. The curriculum provides learning opportunities for young people to develop as individuals, contributors to society, the economy and the environment. The key elements that act as drivers include Mutual Understanding, Citizenship, Cultural Understanding and Ethical Awareness. In primary school, the 'World Around Us' and 'Personal Development and Mutual Understanding' provide opportunities for pupils to explore human rights and social responsibility; how people in the world interact; the causes of conflict and appropriate responses; valuing and celebrating cultural difference and diversity; similarities and differences between people; respect for others; and living as	

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					members of the community. In post primary schools, Religious Education, history, geography and languages assist in reinforcing the principles of diversity, morality, human rights and social justice. Learning for Life and Work covers concepts such as diversity and inclusion; human rights and social responsibility and democracy and active participation in local, national, European and global contexts through “Local and Global Citizenship”. This provides opportunities for pupils to explore issues relating to diversity in societies and investigate key human rights principles and local and global scenarios where human rights have been seriously infringed.	
134.175 (addressing the gender pay gap)	Israel	With regards the reporting mechanism on gender pay gap, to consider efficient means of following-up on the reports made by the employers.	The UK remains firmly committed to achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, for example: the UK has its 2 nd female Prime Minister; over 30% of Members of Parliament are women; the highest number of women in work and the highest ever percentage of women on the boards of our largest UK-listed companies. From this year, larger employers must publish their gender pay and bonus gaps and the UK is tackling VAWG.	Supported	The UK gender pay gap is currently at 17.3% for all employees and continues to decline. Over 10,000 employers have reported their gender pay gap for two years now; providing an unparalleled level of transparency and pushing employers to take real action to close the gap. Reporting is just the start, it is crucial that employers use their gender pay gap data to identify the barriers to	Supported

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			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
			<p>Since the UK's second UPR, the UK Government also extended the CEDAW to four additional British Overseas Territories: Anguilla; Bermuda; Cayman Islands; and the territory grouping of St Helena, Ascension Island and Tristan da Cunha.</p> <p>The UK gender pay gap is currently at its lowest level ever, at 18.1%. Measures to address it include gender pay gap reporting which, from April 2017, applies to employers with more than 250 staff covering around half of the total workforce. Organisations are required to publish these reports annually; in particular, employers must both: publish their gender pay gap data on their public-facing website; and report their data to the UK Government online. If an organisation has fewer than 250 employees, it can publish and report voluntarily but is not obliged to do so. The information must be maintained online on the organisations website for a minimum of three years and they are encouraged to publish a narrative and action plan to demonstrate what actions they are taking to reduce their gender pay gap. Other measures include the introduction of shared parental leave, extending the right to request flexible working and an enhanced childcare offer. In addition, a £5 million fund has been</p>		<p>women's recruitment and progression and take action to break down those barriers.</p> <p>UK Government has published advice for employers on how to diagnose their gaps and develop an action plan, alongside evidence-based guidance on practical actions they can take to close the gap.</p> <p>IN NORTHERN IRELAND: Section 19 of The Employment Act (Northern Ireland) 2016 (which is prospective and not yet in operation) provides that employers must, in accordance with Regulations, publish information showing whether any gender pay disparities exist between their employees. Where gender pay differences are identified, an employer will be required to publish an action plan to eliminate them. Section 19 is not yet in operation and necessary Regulations have still to be made. 2019 was the tenth year where full-time females in NI earned at least as much as fulltime males on average. Considering all employees, regardless of working pattern, female hourly pay is below male pay on average due to the higher proportion of female part-</p>	

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			<p>allocated to support people returning to work after time spent caring for children and family.</p> <p>IN NORTHERN IRELAND: Section 19 of The Employment Act (Northern Ireland) 2016 provides that employers must, in accordance with Regulations, publish information showing whether any gender pay disparities exist between their employees. Where gender pay differences are identified, an employer will be required to publish an action plan to eliminate them. The necessary Regulations have still to be made.</p> <p>The Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency publishes annual pay statistics for the Northern Ireland Civil Service. The latest report published on 15 December 2016 stated “there was no gap between male and female pay in the Northern Ireland Civil Service – the median basic full-time equivalent salaries of male and female staff are equal. This was also the case in 2015, when no gap was reported.”</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND: The Scottish Government leads by example by having one of the very few gender-balanced cabinets anywhere. The Scottish Government has committed to establish an Advisory Council for Women and Girls; to</p>		<p>time employees.</p> <p>IN WALES: Considering full-time and part-time combined, the overall gender pay gap in Wales has increased slightly in 2019 to 14.5 per cent, compared with 13.7 per cent in 2018. The gender pay gap in Welsh Government is 7.96%, down from 8.08% the previous year. This compares favourably to the Welsh average of 15%. Our pay systems are fair and equal for all staff, the figure of 7.96% is reflective of working patterns and grades of men and women. We are fully committed to doing everything we can to reduce the pay gap and understand that more can be done. Fair Work Wales, our Employability Plan, Economic Contract, Strategic Equality Plan & Gender Equality Review all have an important part to play in preventing discrimination and advancing equality for all.</p>	

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			<p>bring forward legislation to improve the representation of women on the boards of public bodies in Scotland; and continues to champion the Partnership for Change 50/50 by 2020 campaign, which encourages public, private and third sector organisations to work towards gender balance on their own boards by 2020.</p> <p>The Scottish Government recently lowered the threshold for listed public authorities to publish their gender pay gap and equal pay statements, from those with more than 150 employees to those with more than 20 employees. The gender pay gap for full-time employees in Scotland decreased from 7.7% in 2015 to 6.2% in 2016. Scotland's public sector pay policies require public bodies to ensure that pay is fair and non-discriminatory, and the Scottish Government continues to support work to raise awareness and encourage action by employees and employers to tackle the causes of pay inequality. The Scottish Government is taking action to ensure women's equality in the workplace, for example working with the Equality and Human Rights Commission to tackle pregnancy and maternity discrimination.</p> <p>IN WALES: The Welsh Government introduced a robust public sector equality duty to address pay</p>			

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			and employment differences, and specifically gender pay differences. This was introduced under the Equality Act 2010 (Statutory Duties) (Wales) Regulations 2011.			
134.176 (addressing the gender pay gap)	Libya	Address the problem of discrimination against women, particularly in the labour market with regard to gender based wage gap.	See the response to 134.175.	Supported	See the response to 134.175 on gender-based wage gap. The Government is committed to making the UK a country where everyone can reach their full potential and wants to ensure that every woman in the UK can make the most of their talents: gender equality is good for the country, for society and for business. On 3 July the Government published ' <i>Gender equality at every stage: a roadmap for change</i> ', which sets out our plans to address the persistent gendered barriers people face at every stage of life. The Roadmap announces a range of cross-Government activity to address gender inequality, including tackling the limiting attitudes and social norms about roles for men and women; promoting entry and progression in work; supporting people to balance work and care; and helping economic well-being in later life. Actions in the Roadmap include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving access to information 	Supported

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					<p>for parents on childcare, parental leave and family friendly policies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviewing the enforcement of equal pay legislation. • Launching a national communications campaign to support employers close their gender pay gaps. • Announcing a number of new research projects, for example around tackling gender stereotypes and women’s health. <p>Alongside the Roadmap, we published the first release of our new annual Gender Equality Monitor, which brings together metrics on gender equality from all areas of life to help us better measure progress.</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND: In March 2019, the Scottish Government published A Fairer Scotland for Women: Gender Pay Gap Action Plan⁴⁸. The aim of the action plan is to deliver a cross-government approach, tackling the root causes of the inequality that women experience</p>	

⁴⁸ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/fairer-scotland-women-gender-pay-gap-action-plan/>

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					<p>throughout each stage of their life and drives the gender pay gap when entering and progressing in the labour market. The plan takes an intersectional approach and addresses labour market inequalities faced by women, particularly disabled women, minority ethnic women, older women, women from poorer socio-economic backgrounds and women with caring responsibilities.</p> <p>In 2018, the Scottish Government launched the Workplace Equality Fund to deliver employer-led innovative solutions to overcome workforce and workplace inequality. The new expanded Workplace Equality Fund for 2019-20 which closed in September 2020 (£800,000) continued to focus on supporting older workers, women, disabled people, and those from a minority ethnic background. The Fund also supported women transitioning through the menopause, victims of domestic abuse, and workers who are experiencing social isolation and loneliness (such as unpaid carers).</p>	
134.177 (addressing the gender pay gap)	Malaysia	Address more effectively entrenched discriminatory practices against	See the response to 134.175.	Supported	See the response to 134.176 There are higher percentages than ever before of women on boards.	Supported

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		women in the political, economic and social spheres, particularly in terms of the gender-pay gap and social security.			<p>We have now reached 30% female board members in the FTSE 350 and no all-male boards in the FTSE 100. We want 33 per cent of all board and senior leadership positions in the FTSE 350 to be held by women by 2020. Between 2010 and 2015, we supported the business-led, independent Lord Davies Review on women on boards, which exceeded the target to have 25% female directors on FTSE 100 boards.</p> <p>We have more women MPs than ever before, but we must ensure women have an equal voice in the decisions that affect them.</p> <p>The Suffrage Centenary Fund (shttps://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-announces-details-of-25-million-to-celebrate-centenary-of-suffrage) supported projects that encouraged more women to participate in democracy and consider a role in politics.</p>	
134.178 (combating discrimination against women)	Uzbekistan	Pay a priority attention to gender equality and discrimination against women, as well as on the grounds of race	<p>On addressing the gender pay gap and promoting gender equality, see the response to 134.175.</p> <p>As set out in its periodic reports to the UN, the UK continues to comply with its</p>	Supported	<p>As set out in its periodic reports to the UN, the UK continues to comply with its obligations under the CEDAW.</p> <p>The UK was last examined by the CEDAW Committee in February 2019.</p>	Supported

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
		and ethnicity and ensure the application of the principles and provisions of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination in domestic legislation of the country.	obligations under the CEDAW.		IN SCOTLAND: The Scottish Government is committed to gender equality and is taking action across a range of priority areas to realise women's equality, including: transforming its childcare offer; strengthening the law on domestic abuse and legislating to improve women's representation on the boards of listed Scottish public authorities. In 2017, the First Minister established a National Advisory Council on Women and Girls ⁴⁹ to provide independent strategic advice to the Scottish Government on gender equality. As noted under 134.164 the Period Product (Free Provision) (Scotland) Bill is currently making its way through the Scottish Parliament and will have its final consideration before the end of 2020. The Bill puts in place universal access to free period products for anyone who needs them, advancing gender equality.	
134.179	Algeria	Take necessary	See the response to 134.175.	Supported	See the response to 134.176	Supported

⁴⁹ <https://onescotland.org/equality-themes/advisory-council-women-girls/>

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
(combating discrimination against women in the labour market)		measures to eliminate discriminatory practices on the labour market with respect to women.				
134.180 (combating VAWG)	Libya	Exert more efforts to combat or to counter violence against women and girls.	<p>The UK remains firmly committed to tackling VAWG.</p> <p>In the last five years, the UK Government has undertaken a significant amount of work to ensure that victims are supported, perpetrators are brought to justice, and that everything is done to prevent these crimes happening in the first place. This includes: introducing new laws to ensure perpetrators face consequences for their actions, including the criminalisation of forced marriage, two new stalking offences, and a new offence of domestic abuse covering controlling and coercive behaviour; a range of activity to tackle so called ‘honour-based’ violence – this includes significantly strengthening the law on female genital mutilation (FGM) through the introduction of FGM Protection Orders, a new offence of failing to protect a girl from FGM, and a new FGM mandatory reporting duty; and programmes of outreach by the UK Government’s FGM and Forced Marriage Units.</p> <p>The UK Government has pledged Increased</p>	Supported	<p>The UK Government’s approach to tackling VAWG is set out in the cross-government Ending Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy, published in 2016, and in March 2019 a refreshed strategy was published to demonstrate our commitment to tackling these crimes.</p> <p>We have also introduced specific offences to ban emerging behaviours not explicitly covered by the law, such as ‘revenge porn’ and ‘upskirting’.</p> <p>In addition to the £100 million pledged for combating VAWG between 2016 and 2020, the UK Government published the National Statement of Expectations which sets out, for the first time, a clear blueprint for local action on VAWG.</p> <p>The UK Government has also committed to conducting an end-to-end review into the criminal justice response to rape, in order to better understand the barriers to bringing</p>	Supported

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			<p>funding of £100 million for combating VAWG between now and 2020. This will help to deliver the goal to work with local commissioners to deliver a secure future for rape support centres, refuges, FGM and Forced Marriage Units.</p> <p>The UK Government also published a new National Statement of Expectations which sets out, for the first time, a clear blueprint for local action on VAWG.</p> <p>The UK Government will bring forward a landmark Domestic Abuse Bill which will protect and support victims, recognise the life-long impact domestic abuse can have on children and make sure agencies effectively respond to domestic abuse. The Bill will establish a domestic violence and abuse commissioner and set out a legal definition of domestic abuse, recognising that domestic abuse extends beyond violence. It will include measures to consolidate civil and criminal prevention and protection orders to create a clearer pathway of protection for victims and enable us to deliver on our commitment to the Istanbul Convention by extending ETJ over VAWG related offences in England and Wales.</p> <p>The UK is also continuing the work on influencing the international community to</p>		<p>perpetrators to justice and develop an evidence-based Action Plan to address any issues identified.</p> <p>The UK Government introduced a landmark Domestic Abuse Bill to Parliament in July 2019 which sought to protect and support victims, recognise the life-long impact domestic abuse can have on children and make sure agencies respond effectively to domestic abuse. The Bill included provisions to establish a statutory Domestic Abuse Commissioner and set out a legal definition of domestic abuse, recognising that domestic abuse extends beyond physical violence. It included the introduction of new Domestic Abuse Protection Orders to create a clearer pathway of protection for victims and help us to deliver on our commitment to ratify the Istanbul Convention by extending extra-territorial jurisdiction over VAWG-related offences in England and Wales and introducing a domestic abuse offence in Northern Ireland. In October the Government also announced its intention to add to the Bill a new duty on local authorities in England to provide support to victims of domestic abuse and their children in safe</p>	

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			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
			<p>do more to tackle all forms of VAWG by scaling up related programmes overseas.</p> <p>Through the Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012, the UK Government has reformed the scope of the civil legal aid scheme in England and Wales, but funding has been maintained for the highest priority cases, for example, for those affected by domestic violence. Where a matter is out of the scope of the civil legal aid scheme, exceptional case funding is available where failure to provide legal aid would breach the applicant's rights under the ECHR or EU law, or where funding is appropriate having regard to the risk of breach. FGM Protection Orders are within the scope of the civil legal aid scheme.</p> <p>IN NORTHERN IRELAND:</p> <p>The Northern Ireland Executive has enhanced the available protections by, for example, providing for forced marriage to be a criminal offence in this jurisdiction (section 16 of the Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Criminal Justice and Protection for Victims) Act (Northern Ireland) 2015).</p> <p>The Northern Ireland Stopping Domestic and Sexual Violence and Abuse Strategy's</p>		<p>accommodation.</p> <p>In September 2018, we appointed a Designate Domestic Abuse Commissioner to start her important work in standing up for victims and holding national and local Government to account in improving their response to domestic abuse.</p> <p>The UK is also continuing the work on influencing the international community to do more to tackle all forms of VAWG by scaling up related programmes overseas. This includes launching a new £67.5m programme to prevent VAWG globally.</p> <p>Through the Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012, the UK Government has reformed the scope of the civil legal aid scheme in England and Wales, but funding has been maintained for the highest priority cases, for example, for those affected by domestic abuse (subject to the necessary evidence being provided). Where a matter is out of the scope of the civil legal aid scheme, exceptional case funding is available where failure to provide legal aid would breach the applicant's rights under the ECHR or</p>	

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			<p>new governance and accountability arrangements are now operational. Departments are working with all stakeholders to develop a Year Two Action Plan.</p> <p>The Northern Ireland Department of Health and Department of Justice continue to fund key victim information, support and advice services including the 24 hour Domestic and Sexual Violence Helpline, the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences for high risk victims of domestic violence, and The Rowan Sexual Assault Referral Centre.</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND:</p> <p>The Scottish Government is investing significant levels of funding and bringing forward new legislation to tackle VAWG. It is also implementing 'Equally Safe', Scotland's strategy to tackle all forms of VAWG.</p> <p>Legal aid is available to victims of domestic and gender-based violence seeking protection through civil actions, where they meet the statutory eligibility criteria.</p> <p>In March 2017, the Scottish Government introduced in Parliament the Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Bill. This Bill provides</p>		<p>retained EU law, or where funding is appropriate having regard to the risk of breach. In January 2018, the UK Government made changes to legislation to introduce new forms of evidence of domestic abuse and child abuse, expand the scope of existing evidence, and remove the time limit of five years from all forms of evidence for domestic abuse and child abuse. In February 2019, the UK Government published the Legal Support Action Plan which sets out a number of changes to improve the support available to people with legal problems. This included a review of the legal aid means test, to report in Summer 2020. FGM Protection Orders are within the scope of the civil legal aid scheme.</p> <p>See also response to 134.171 on the introduction of Relationships and Sex Education in England.</p> <p>IN NORTHERN IRELAND: The Northern Ireland Executive has enhanced the available protections by, for example, providing for forced marriage to be a criminal offence in this jurisdiction (section 16 of the Human Trafficking and Exploitation</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
			<p>for a specific offence of domestic abuse that covers not just physical abuse but also other forms of psychological abuse and coercive and controlling behaviour that cannot easily be prosecuted using the existing criminal law.</p> <p>In March 2016, the Scottish Parliament passed the Abusive Behaviour and Sexual Harm Act, which creates a specific offence of sharing private intimate images without consent.</p> <p>The Forced Marriage etc. (Protection and Jurisdiction) Scotland Act 2011 introduced a civil Forced Marriage Protection Order, breach of which is a criminal offence. From 30 September 2014, section 122 of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 made it a criminal offence to force a person into marriage.</p> <p>The Scottish Government funds a number of specialist organisations that provide support and assistance to those affected or who may be affected by forced marriage.</p> <p>IN WALES:</p> <p>The Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015 aims to improve the public sector</p>		<p>(Criminal Justice and Protection for Victims) Act (Northern Ireland) 2015).</p> <p>The Northern Ireland Stopping Domestic and Sexual Violence and Abuse Strategy continues to be delivered through yearly action plans. The Northern Ireland Department of Health and Department of Justice continue to fund key victim information, support and advice services including the regional 24 hour Domestic and Sexual Violence Helpline (which is also funded by the Department of Communities) the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences for high risk victims of domestic violence, and The Rowan Sexual Assault Referral Centre.</p> <p>The Department of Health leads a cross-departmental programme of work to protect girls at risk of FGM which has included the development of practice guidance, care pathways and awareness raising among communities at risk. Health and Social Care systems collect data on FGM and training on FGM is provided to professionals.</p> <p>Northern Ireland's '<i>Stopping Domestic and Sexual Violence and Abuse Strategy</i>' which was published in 2016</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
			<p>response in Wales to such abuse and violence.</p> <p>The Welsh Government has created the National Training Framework for Wales on Violence Against Women and Domestic abuse and Sexual Violence (VAWDSV). This will improve the understanding of the general workforce of violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence and further professionalises the specialist sector by improving the consistency of training in the area. Rhian Bowen-Davies was appointed National Adviser for VAWDSV to drive improvement of services for victims and survivors.</p> <p>A National Strategy on Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence - 2016 – 2021 was published in November 2016. The Strategy builds on collective progress from the Public Sector to date, and prioritises delivery in the areas of prevention, protection, and provision of support, in line with the purpose of the Act.</p> <p>The Welsh Government’s Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act 2015 also covers honour based violence, forced marriages and female genital mutilation.</p>		<p>acknowledges that anyone can be a victim of domestic and sexual violence and abuse irrespective of age, ethnicity, religion, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation or any form of disability. The Strategy identifies the need to raise awareness and to promote a zero-tolerance approach to domestic and sexual violence and abuse. Annual action plans are developed to support the Strategy and promote the delivery of a range of initiatives under it. The action plan for year four detailing these initiatives can be accessed at: https://www.justice-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/justice/year-five-action-plan-stopping-domestic-and-sexual-violence-abuse-strategy.pdf</p> <p>A Domestic Abuse and Family Proceedings Bill is also progressing through the Northern Ireland Assembly which will provide for a new domestic abuse offence and sentencing aggravation. It also makes provisions for special measures, and prevents cross-examination by the defendant, in criminal courts and in particular circumstances in family proceedings in the civil courts.</p> <p>In addition, work is ongoing in a number of settings (such as the College</p>	

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					<p>of Agriculture, Food and Rural Enterprise) to promote the welfare and safety of children to ensure they are protected from exploitation, abuse and neglect.</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND: The Scottish Government is implementing <i>Equally Safe</i>,⁵⁰ the Scottish Government/COSLA led Strategy for preventing and eradicating violence against women and girls. The strategy adopts the UN definition of violence against women and girls, and directly links gender inequality to violence against women and girls. The Delivery Plan for Equally Safe contains 118 commitments relevant to tackling and preventing Violence Against Women and Girls.⁵¹ The Scottish Government have invested over £22m in the innovative and accredited Caledonian System and has committed to expanding the domestic abuse programme so that more male perpetrators of domestic abuse can receive specific</p>	

⁵⁰ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/equally-safe-scotlands-strategy-prevent-eradicate-violence-against-women-girls/>

⁵¹ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/equally-safe-delivery-plan-scotlands-strategy-prevent-violence-against-women/>

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>rehabilitation services. 75% of the population of Scotland live in local authority areas which now deliver the Caledonian System. In addition, the Scottish Government provides over £100 million of ring-fenced funding to local authorities for criminal justice social work. This funding is used to deliver a range of statutory services in partnership, including delivering programmes to address perpetrators of domestic violence. The Disclosure Scheme for Domestic Abuse gives people the right to ask if their current partner may have an abusive past.</p> <p>Scottish Government funding supports the delivery of the Equally Safe in Schools project, and the work of a National Sexual Violence Prevention Coordinator, which is committed to challenging the conditions in which gender-based violence flourishes. The Scottish Government has also funded the development and roll out of the Equally Safe in Higher Education Tool Kit which was launched in April 2018. The Tool Kit, which Universities and Colleges are expected to adopt, provides institutions with the resources they need to tackle gender-based violence and develop a whole campus</p>	

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			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>response.</p> <p>The Scottish Government is committed to exploring what more can be done to address prostitution in Scotland, recognising it as a form of violence against women. It will consult on approaches to challenge men's demand for prostitution, continue to support work to reduce the harms associated with commercial sexual exploitation and help women to exit prostitution.</p> <p>IN WALES: 'Ask and Act' is a process of targeted enquiry to be practiced across the relevant authorities (as named in the Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Act) to identify violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence. The 'Ask and Act' programme is currently operating in seven areas of Wales, and discussions about implementation are underway with Bridgend, Swansea Western Bay and Cardiff. This will be a national programme by 2021.</p> <p>By the end of September 2020, 5,161 workers had been trained to ask and act (group 2 and 3)</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
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					<p>Call to action – LFF Helpline</p> <p>Not every home is a place of safety. Social distancing restrictions and self-isolation can be frightening for victims of violence and abuse. These restrictions can amplify abusers’ power and control and increase the risk to victims.</p> <p>Our Live Fear Free helpline is a free, 24/7 service for all victims and survivors of domestic abuse and sexual violence and those close to them, including family, friends and colleagues. It has remained open, offering a full service while Coronavirus restrictions are in place. Information on keeping safe throughout the Coronavirus outbreak is available on our Live Fear free website – Livefearfree.gov.wales.</p> <p>The Dyn helpline, supporting male victims and survivors has remained open during the pandemic.</p> <p>Calls to the Live Fear Free help-line decreased during lockdown but as restrictions on movements eased, those numbers have risen significantly and continue to do so as local restrictions are introduced. We have provided additional funding to services to</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>prepare for this increase in demand. The Live Fear Free helpline reports that calls during the pandemic are more complex and assessed at higher risk. There is clear concern on financial abuse within the relationships and reports of high-level control. It is evident people continue searching for help in silent ways. We will continue to publicise ‘silent means’ of accessing help and support through, text, instant chat, email and calling 999 and pressing 55 when operator answers.</p> <p>Education Violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence can have a huge impact on children and young people. It can affect their wellbeing, their educational attainment, family and peer relationships, and their ability to enjoy healthy, happy, respectful relationships now and in the future. Raising children and young people’s awareness of equality, respect and consent is crucial if we are to stop VAWDASV. We want to ensure all children and young people have access to developmentally appropriate, high quality learning that responds to their needs and experiences.</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>We continue to fund Hafan Cymru's Spectrum project, which is working to combat issues related to VAWDASV in primary and secondary schools across Wales. This promotes the importance of healthy relationships and raises awareness of VAWDASV. Spectrum also delivers training for school staff and governors about understanding the impact of domestic abuse on a child and raises awareness by looking at a whole school approach to tackling domestic abuse.</p> <p>Sex and Relationships Education will be renamed as Relationships and Sexuality Education (RSE). This will be made a statutory part of the new curriculum for all learners between the ages of 3 and 16.</p>	
134.181 (combating VAWG)	Maldives	Adopt national legislation, especially in Northern Ireland, on Domestic Violence Protection that ensures all cases of domestic violence are thoroughly investigated and that perpetrators are prosecuted.	See the response to 134.180.	Supported	<p>See the response to 134.180.</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND: The Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act 2018, which came into effect in April 2019, creates a specific offence covering not just physical abuse but other forms of psychological abuse that are difficult to prosecute under the pre-existing law. The offence is a "course of conduct" offence for the first time, enabling physical, psychological and controlling behaviour to be prosecuted</p>	Supported

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					at once. To support officers and staff respond to and investigate the new offence, the Scottish Government has provided funding for Police Scotland to introduce a programme of change entitled Domestic Abuse Matters (Scotland), seeking to continually improve the response to domestic abuse. 14,000 officers and staff have now received specialist training to spot the signs of coercive and controlling behaviours.	
134.182 (combating VAWG)	Slovenia	Ensure a holistic approach to the prevention of violence against women and girls, including harmful practices.	See the response to 134.180.	Supported	See the response to 134.180 and 134.181. SCOTLAND: In addition, the Scottish Government considers all forms of violence against women and girls a fundamental violation of human rights, including so called ‘honour-based violence’ such as forced marriage and female genital mutilation (FGM). In 2016, the Scottish Government published Scotland’s National Action	Supported

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>Plan to Prevent and Eradicate Female Genital Mutilation.⁵² This is supported by a National Implementation Group. A year three progress report was published on 8 November 2019.⁵³ The Scottish Government has published multi agency guidance setting out how agencies, individually and together, can protect girls and young women from FGM, and how to respond appropriately to survivors. On 29 May 2019, the Scottish Government introduced the Female Genital Mutilation (Protection and Guidance) (Scotland) Bill, which seeks to strengthen the existing legislative framework for the protection of women and girls from FGM. The Bill includes two provisions for FGM Protection Orders and statutory guidance. It is currently being scrutinised by the Equalities and Human Rights Committee in the Scottish Parliament. The Scottish Government has refreshed its forced marriage network and is developing a working plan of the network's priorities. It is committed to</p>	

⁵² <https://www.gov.scot/publications/scotlands-national-action-plan-prevent-eradicate-fgm/>

⁵³ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/scotlands-national-action-plan-prevent-eradicate-female-genital-mutilation-fgm-year-three-progress-report/>

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					refreshing forced marriage statutory guidance by Spring 2020.	
134.183 (combating VAWG)	Sudan	Combat violence against women and girls in particular the domestic violence.	See the response to 134.180.	Supported	See the responses to 134.180 and 134.181.	Supported
134.184 (combating discrimination and VAWG)	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Continue efforts to combat discrimination on any ground and violence against women and girls.	See the responses to 134.175 and 134.180.	Supported	See the responses to 134.180 and 134.181.	Supported
134.185 (combating VAWG)	Indonesia	Continue its positive efforts to reduce domestic violence throughout the country.	See the response to 134.180.	Supported	See the responses to 134.180 and 134.181.	Supported
134.186 (combating VAWG; combating child sexual abuse)	China	Effectively fight violence against women and take substantive measures to combat sexual exploitation and sexual crimes against children.	<p>On combating VAWG, see the response to 134.180.</p> <p>The Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse was established by the UK Government as a statutory inquiry on 12 March 2015 to consider the growing evidence of institutional failures to protect children from child sexual abuse, and to make recommendations to ensure the best possible protection for children in future. In February 2017, the UK Government published a progress report on its actions to deal with child sexual exploitation, and it also announced the delivery of a £40 million</p>	Supported	<p>See the response to 134.180.</p> <p>IN NORTHERN IRELAND: The Northern Ireland Executive's Inquiry into Historical Institutional Abuse examined if there were systemic failings by institutions or the state in their duties towards those children in their care between the years of 1922-1995. The Inquiry Report was formally published on 20 January 2017. Two of its key recommendations were to appoint a statutory Commissioner for Survivors of Institutional Childhood Abuse and to set up a Redress Board to</p>	Supported

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
			<p>package of measures to protect children and young people from sexual abuse, exploitation and trafficking, and to crack down on offenders. These measures include the launch of a new Centre of Expertise on child sexual abuse, an extra £20 million for the National Crime Agency to tackle online child sexual exploitation, £2.2 million for organisations working to protect children at risk of trafficking and the launch of Independent Child Trafficking Advocates.</p> <p>IN NORTHERN IRELAND: The Northern Ireland Executive’s Inquiry into Historical Institutional Abuse examined if there were systemic failings by institutions or the state in their duties towards those children in their care between the years of 1922-1995. The Inquiry Report was formally published on 20 January 2017.</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND: Having listened to the views of survivors of childhood abuse, the Scottish Government is legislating to remove the time bar preventing civil action to be taken after the limitation period has expired, which is usually the survivor’s 19th birthday. The Limitation (Childhood Abuse) (Scotland) Bill passed its third and final stage in the Scottish Parliament on 22 June 2017.</p> <p>The Scottish Child Abuse Inquiry is looking</p>		<p>administer a compensation scheme for victims and survivors of historical institutional abuse. The Historical Institutional Abuse (Northern Ireland) Act was made and received Royal Assent on 5 November 2019. This provides the legal framework for establishing a Commissioner and a Redress Board and work is underway to put both arm’s length bodies in place. An Interim Advocate was appointed as a voice for victims and survivors of historical institutional abuse on 2 July 2019 and will remain in place until a statutory Commissioner is appointed</p> <p>In addition, work is ongoing in a number of settings (such as the College of Agriculture, Food and Rural Enterprise) to promote the welfare and safety of children to ensure they are protected from exploitation, abuse and neglect.</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND: See the responses to 134.42, 134.180 and 134.181.</p> <p>IN WALES: We have published a good practice guide for schools and guidance for school governors as part of a package</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
			<p>into abuse of children in care and is expected to report within four years of starting work on 1 October 2015.</p> <p>On 29 September 2016, the Future Pathways Fund (In Care Survivor Support Fund) was launched. The fund, which is open to individuals who were abused whilst in care in Scotland, co-ordinates access to and delivery of resources, integrated care and support tailored to the needs of the individual.</p> <p>Additionally, since 2009, the Scottish Government has invested £9 million in third and voluntary sector organisations which offer a wide range of local services across Scotland that support survivors of child abuse.</p>		<p>of measures to support implementation of the Act.</p> <p>Safeguarding all our young people and supporting them to navigate the complex area of Relationships and Sexuality Education (RSE) is vital. Parents, have a central role to play in this, but there is also a crucial role for schools.</p> <p>Children have the right to access information that keeps them safe from harm and allows them to navigate the world we live in. This is why we are proposing to make RSE a statutory requirement in the new curriculum. High-quality RSE has an important role to play in supporting learners in recognising healthy, safe relationships and understanding, and developing respect for, differences between people.</p> <p>RSE will be taught in a way that is age appropriate – for example, the very youngest pupils would be learning about how to form happy and healthy relationships with friends and family – this is similar to what is presently taught in the Foundation Phase.</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>Welsh Government has published a good practice guide for schools on violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence, and guidance for school governors as part of a package of measures to support implementation of the Act.</p> <p>The Welsh Government funds Hafan Cymru's Spectrum project to teach children and young people the importance of healthy relationships, to raise awareness of violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence and where to seek help.</p> <p>Officials are working with the WJEC to design and pilot a Health and Wellbeing Peer Mentoring challenge for the Advanced Welsh Baccalaureate, which will also promote the White Ribbons youth advocate programme.</p> <p>Welsh Government has commissioned workshops starting this month to be delivered through the whole of Wales to provide front line professionals such as school counsellors, and youth workers with a greater insight, knowledge and practical tools to use when supporting young people.</p>	

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			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>We are working with HEFCW to strengthen the approach to enhancing safeguarding practices and resilience, supporting employees and student initiatives that tackle violence against women, harassment and other adverse factors affecting mental health.</p> <p>We worked with HEFCW to develop guidance on tackling VAWDASV in Higher Education. Consultation on this has just closed and I look forward to its publication.</p> <p>FGM, honour-based abuse and forced marriage</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welsh Government jointly chairs the Female Genital Mutilation, Honour-based Abuse and Forced Marriage All Wales Leadership Group with BAWSO and the Crown Prosecution Service. • FGM is a sensitive subject, so the Leadership group created a logo to facilitate easy identification of support services without the need to ask for directions to the location of these services. The Leadership Group has also supported the Wales's first specialist Women's Wellbeing clinic which is situated in Cardiff Royal Infirmary. 	

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			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The All Wales Honour-based Abuse Delivery Plan sets out the framework for key partners to contribute to tackling this issue in Wales, whilst providing the best possible support to survivors. This plan is currently being refreshed by group members. 	
134.187 (combating domestic violence)	Czechia	Step up its efforts in fighting domestic violence and take measures to prevent secondary victimisation and the negative impact of domestic violence on children.	See the response to 134.180.	Supported	<p>See the response to 134.180.</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND: The Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act 2018, which came into effect on 1 April 2019, provides for a statutory sentencing aggravation that the offence of abuse of a partner or ex-partner is aggravated where the perpetrator uses a child in committing the offence; directs behaviour at a child in committing the offence; where the child sees, hears or is present when the abuse is taking place; or where a child is likely to be adversely affected by the perpetrator's behaviour.</p> <p>Where the aggravation is proven, the court is required to take account of this in sentencing the offender and state how the sentence differed from that which the court would otherwise have imposed. This ensures that the harm</p>	Supported

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>caused to children by the abuse of their parent or carer is formally recognised and recorded.</p> <p>The Scottish Government is committed to supporting the development of the ‘Safe and Together’ model of child protection in a domestic abuse setting in Scotland. It has provided funding for Social Work Scotland to commission work with stakeholders to look at how best to support work to develop the model. The Scottish Government will continue to work with the US Safe and Together Institute’s UK Lead and the Safe and Together Stakeholder Group to support the model in Scotland.</p>	
134.188 (combating forced marriage and FGM)	Gabon	Strengthen its legislative framework by including penal sanctions for perpetrators of acts of forced marriage and non-protection against female genital mutilation.	See the response to 134.180.	Supported	<p>See the response to 134.180.</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND: In order to strengthen the existing legislative framework for the protection of women and girls from FGM, on 29 May 2019 the Scottish Government introduced the Female Genital Mutilation (Protection and Guidance) Bill. The Bill introduces two new provisions: FGM Protection Orders and Statutory Guidance. The FGM Protection Orders are a civil remedy designed to reduce the</p>	Supported

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					likelihood or prevent cases of FGM, protect those who have already suffered FGM or disrupt the activities of suspected or known FGM perpetrators. Breaching a protection order will be a criminal offence.	
134.189 (climate change - National Adaptation Programme)	Maldives	Place children’s rights at the centre of climate change adaption and mitigation strategies by mainstreaming child-sensitive risk and vulnerability reduction strategies into its National Adaptation Programme.	<p>The National Adaptation Programme sets out UK Government policies and programmes for addressing the specific risks identified in the five-yearly climate change risk assessment required under the Climate Change Act. We are working to integrate consideration of climate risks and their impact within policies and programmes across government.</p> <p>The National Adaptation Programme therefore reflects the policies, programmes and actions across government and a wide range of other stakeholders that will address immediate climate change risks. As such many directly impact and consider the rights of children. For instance, climate risks are considered in an integrated way within the UK Government’s policies and programmes on the environment and framework for improving the environment within a generation. Here, work to transform levels of connection, particularly amongst children, builds understanding and awareness of the environment and action to protect and enhance it.</p>	Noted	<p>The National Adaptation Programme sets out UK Government policies and programmes for addressing the specific risks identified in the five-yearly climate change risk assessment required under the Climate Change Act (2008). We are working to integrate consideration of climate risks and their impact within policies and programmes across government.</p> <p>The second National Adaptation Programme, published in 2018, includes actions and plans across a wide range of other stakeholders that will address immediate climate change risks. As such, many of these plans directly impact and consider the rights of children. The second NAP includes a dedicated chapter on People and the Built Environment which is grounded in a vision to “promote the development of a healthy, equitable and resilient population, well placed to reduce the harmful health impacts of climate change, and able to capitalise</p>	Noted

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
			<p>IN SCOTLAND Scotland is a world-leader in tackling climate change, with sustained progress against ambitious statutory targets. Recent statistics show Scotland is well on track to meet its 2020 target of a 42% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, with a 41% reduction as at 2015. In January 2017, the Scottish Government laid its draft climate change plan before the Scottish Parliament. The Scottish Government is also championing climate justice, which aims to avoid the worst impacts of climate change falling on the poor and vulnerable, including children. It recognises the issue of intergenerational fairness and a Letter of Cooperation with the Government of California signed on 3 April 2017 says that failing to take swift action to combat climate change will cost future generations dearly. Scottish Government policy is that a Child Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment (CRWIA) should be used on all new legislation and policy which impacts children and the Scottish Government will assess its new Climate Change Bill against this requirement. On climate adaptation, the Scottish Government has published a study on disadvantage and flooding, one of Scotland's main climate risks.</p>		<p>on the potential health gains associated with tackling it". The UK's 25 Year Environment Plan sets out how we will improve the environment within a generation and adapting to climate change is essential if we are to meet this goal. Through the 25 Year Environment Plan we are also looking to build understanding and awareness of the environment and transform levels of connection to protect and enhance it. 2019 marked our Year of Green Action, a year-long drive to help people connect with nature and inspire them to take action to protect and enhance the environment. The 25 Year Plan puts children and young people at the heart of the Year of Green Action. We partnered with the charity Step Up To Serve to help encourage environmental youth social action through their #iwill4nature campaign. Further, in collaboration with BEIS, we consulted a Youth Steering Group, a group of young people aged 14-25, set up in 2019 by the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, and led by the British Youth Council, as one of three new youth voice projects to encourage young people to participate in influencing national</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
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			<p>Education Scotland’s Learner Participation resource and the Scottish Government’s commitment to learning for sustainability encourage schools to weave together sustainable development education, global citizenship and outdoor learning into a coherent whole school and community approach. At its heart are issues relating to social justice, equity, equal access to resources, children’s rights and engagement with complex and controversial issues like climate change which pose a threat to humanity and global biodiversity. In addition, climate change has been embedded within the Scottish curriculum as a context for interdisciplinary learning, spanning the curriculum areas of social studies, technologies and sciences. The strong focus on climate change within the Scottish curriculum, coupled with a significant commitment to the promotion of children’s rights, mean that many schools adopt a rights-based approach to learning about climate change. Many schools are also increasingly setting learning of this nature within the context of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.</p>		<p>policy on a range of issues. The Steering Group provided us with a report on measures we can take to improve our policy approach to climate adaptation. Policy teams in Defra have been considering their recommendations, which continue to inform our work on youth engagement. Furthermore, as COP26 hosts, we are fully committed to an all of society approach which builds on previous youth engagement and works closely with our youth stakeholders, including Step Up To Serve, to deliver a summit which reflects the priorities of young people both domestically and internationally.</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND: The Scottish Government’s second statutory Climate Change Adaptation Programme (SCCAP2),⁵⁴ published in September 2019, uses an outcomes-based approach for the first time. The programme is framed around seven high-level outcomes derived from the UN Sustainable Development Goals and including communities and climate</p>	

⁵⁴ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/climate-ready-scotland-second-scottish-climate-change-adaptation-programme-2019-2024/>

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>justice. One of the specific sub-outcomes set out in the Programme (sub-outcome 2.1) is ensuring that the most vulnerable to climate change in Scotland are engaged, empowered and able to adapt to climate change. Very young people are identified as one of the most vulnerable groups.</p> <p>An outcomes-based approach to SCCAP2 also allows climate change adaptation to contribute to wider social and economic objectives. This includes the Scottish Government's <i>Fairer Scotland Action Plan</i>, which sets out 50 fairness actions working towards high level ambitions that include ending child poverty and providing a strong foundation for all young people.</p> <p>Regarding mitigation, recent Scottish legislation (see the response to recommendation 134.126) means that new Climate Change Plans (to reduce emissions) must include material explaining how the implementation of the plan is expected to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development, including the SDGs.</p>	
134.190 (compliance of immigration)	Syrian Arab Republic	Reviewing the laws of the immigration in Britain in order to comply with the	The UK Government is confident that immigration legislation is consistent with the UK obligations under the CRC.	Noted	The UK's position remains unchanged from 2017.	Noted

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
law with the CRC)		Convention on the Rights of the Child.	<p>Since 9 July 2012, the UK Immigration Rules have contained a new framework for considering applications and claims engaging Article 8 ECHR (right to respect for private and family life).</p> <p>These Rules, together with the policy on exceptional circumstances, give direct effect to obligations under Article 8 ECHR and Article 3 CRC, to take into account, as a primary consideration, the best interests of a child affected by an immigration decision.</p> <p>Section 19 of the Immigration Act 2014 set out Parliament’s view of what the public interest requires in immigration cases engaging the qualified right to respect for private and family life under Article 8 ECHR and a child’s best interests.</p> <p>In the UK, the duty in section 55 of the Borders, Citizenship and Immigration Act 2009 to have regard to the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children means that consideration of the child’s best interests is a primary consideration in all immigration decisions.</p>			
134.191 (combating child poverty; compliance of domestic	Hungary	Increase efforts to eliminate child poverty and bring domestic legislation in line with the	<p>On combating poverty, see the response to 134.164.</p> <p>The UK has been a party to the CRC since 1991 and has given effect to the Convention</p>	Supported	<p>The UK’s position remains unchanged from 2017.</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND: See the responses to 134.59, 134.63,</p>	Supported

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
legislation with the CRC)		Convention on the Rights of the Child.	through a combination of appropriate legislation and administrative measures.		134.65, 134.164, 134.165 and 134.168.	
134.192 (combating child poverty; impact assessment of the welfare reforms)	Kazakhstan	Increase Government efforts to eradicate child poverty, and in this regard undertake an assessment of the impact of the welfare reform on children from disadvantaged families.	<p>The impact assessments, including the equality impact assessments, on the Welfare Reform Act 2012 are publicly available on the UK Government’s portal GOV.UK.</p> <p>At Spring Budget 2017, the UK Government published cumulative distributional analysis of all tax, welfare, and public spending measures implemented since the June Budget 2015.</p> <p>Due to methodological and modelling limitations, the UK Government does not publish such cumulative analysis for protected characteristics, like age. But in line with its legal obligations the UK Government carefully considers the equalities impacts of the individual measures.</p> <p>On combating child poverty, see the response to 134.164.</p>	Noted	<p>The UK Government carefully considers the impact of their decisions on those sharing protected characteristics in line with both their legal obligations and with their strong commitment to promoting fairness.</p> <p>The impact assessments, including the equality impact assessments, on the Welfare Reform Act 2012 are publicly available on the UK Government’s portal GOV.UK.</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND: The Scottish Government has committed to concrete action through its Tackling Child Poverty Delivery Plan. This includes plans for the ambitious new Scottish Child Payment, worth £10 per child per week, for eligible households with a child under 16 by the end of 2022. The payment is being delivered first for children under 6, in recognition that 60% of families with children in poverty have a child in this age group in Scotland. The payment opens for applications in November with the first payment to be made from the end of February 2021.</p>	Noted

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>Once fully rolled out to under 16-year olds, in 2022-23, the Scottish Fiscal Commission estimate that there could be 499,000 children eligible for the payment.</p> <p>In developing its Tackling Child Poverty Delivery Plan, the Scottish Government commissioned independent projections on anticipated levels of child poverty to 2030. This analysis indicated that child poverty levels could rise to around 38% of children if action was not taken. The researchers highlighted that UK Government welfare reforms were a key driver for rising poverty levels</p>	
134.193 (banning corporal punishment of children)	Liechtenstein	In all devolved administrations, overseas territories and Crown dependencies, prohibit all corporal punishment in the family, including through the repeal of all legal defences, such as “reasonable chastisement”.	<p>The UK does not condone any violence towards children and has clear laws to deal with it.</p> <p>The ‘reasonable chastisement’ defence in s.58 Children Act 2004 cannot be used when someone is charged with assault causing actual or grievous bodily harm, or with child cruelty. Parents should not be criminalised for giving a child a mild smack in order to control their behaviour.</p> <p>The Crown Dependencies currently follow a similar approach to the UK.</p>	Noted	<p>The UK does not condone any violence towards children and has clear laws to deal with it but, unless a child is at risk of harm, the Government does not wish to interfere with how loving families bring up their children.</p> <p>The ‘reasonable chastisement’ defence in s.58 Children Act 2004 cannot be used when someone is charged with assault causing actual or grievous bodily harm, or with child cruelty.</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND: The Children (Equal Protection from</p>	Noted

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
			<p>The decision on whether to prohibit corporal punishment and in what settings in the Overseas Territories is a decision, ultimately, for Territory governments. The UK Government is keen to support those Territories who wish to move away from the use of corporal punishment and explore alternative measures, including the development of positive parenting strategies and effective behaviour management techniques.</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND:</p> <p>It is illegal to punish children by shaking, hitting on the head or using an implement. In other cases, the legislation lays down criteria for the courts to consider.</p>		<p>Assault (Scotland) Act 2019 removes the common law defence of “reasonable chastisement”, which is currently available to parents and carers charged with assaulting a child in their care. The removal of this defence will come into force on 7 November 2020.</p> <p>This legislation was introduced to the Scottish Parliament by an individual member. The Scottish Government supported the removal of the defence.</p> <p>IN WALES:</p> <p>The Welsh Government confirmed in their legislative statement in July 2018 that they remained fully committed to removing the defence of reasonable punishment and would be introducing legislation before July 2019.</p> <p>The overarching aim of the Bill is to help protect children's rights, building on changes that have already taken place to prohibit corporal punishment in schools, children's homes, local authority foster care and childcare provision.</p> <p>Legislating to remove the defence of reasonable punishment is a manifesto commitment set out in Prosperity for All – our national strategy.</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					The UNCRC continues to be the basis for our policy for, and affecting, children. It is central to our approach to work to give children the best start in life and help them achieve their potential - The Bill is firmly set within this context.	
134.194 (banning corporal punishment of children)	Liechtenstein	Ensure that corporal punishment is explicitly prohibited in all schools and educational institutions and all other institutions and forms of alternative care.	Corporal punishment is already explicitly prohibited in all schools, children’s homes and registered early years settings. With regard to settings where children receive some form of education/training, but which are not ‘schools’, the UK Government conducted a ‘call for evidence’ (late 2015 – 2016) on a range of issues relating to such settings.	Noted	The UK’s position remains unchanged from 2017. IN SCOTLAND: Section 16 of the Standards in Scotland’s Schools etc Act 2000 prevents the use of corporal punishment in Scottish schools. There is also a prohibition on corporal punishment within foster care and kinship care agreements under the Looked After Children (Scotland) Regulations 2009 (S.S.I. 2009/210) and in respect of a “provider of day care of children, child minding or a child care agency” within the meaning of the Social Care and Social Work Improvement Scotland (Requirements for Care Services) Regulations 2011(S.S.I. 2011/210).	Noted
134.195 (banning corporal punishment of	Ireland	Prohibit corporal punishment in all settings, including the family.	See the response to 134.193.	Noted	See responses to 134.193 and 134.194. IN NORTHERN IRELAND The law in Northern Ireland on the	Noted

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
children)					physical punishment of children is based on the defence of “reasonable chastisement”, although the grounds on which the defence can be used are restricted to a mild smack. Anything more serious or which causes more than transitory or minor discomfort is unlawful and can result in prosecution Any proposal to change the law in Northern Ireland will not be solely a justice matter. It will be cross-cutting and require Executive agreement with implications for a number of Departments, particularly in areas such as parenting, family and criminal law.	
134.196 (banning corporal punishment of children)	Mongolia	Reconsider its position on the legality of corporal punishment of children.	See the response to 134.193.	Noted	See responses to 134.193 and 134.194.	Noted
134.197 (banning corporal punishment of children)	Sweden	Ban corporal punishment of children to ensure the full protection and freedom from violence for all children.	See the response to 134.193.	Noted	See responses to 134.193 and 134.194.	Noted
134.198 (banning corporal punishment of children)	Croatia	Consider prohibiting corporal punishment against children and ensure that it is explicitly prohibited in all schools and	See the responses to 134.193 and 134.194.	Noted	See responses to 134.193 and 134.194.	Noted

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
		educational institutions, and all other institutions and forms of alternative care.				
134.199 (banning corporal punishment of children)	Estonia	Take further actions in protecting the rights of the child by prohibiting all corporal punishment of children as required by the convention of the Rights of Child.	See the response to 134.193.	Noted	See responses to 134.193 and 134.194.	Noted
134.200 (combating child abuse)	Timor-Leste	Develop and implement comprehensive multi sectoral strategies on child exploitation and abuse.	On combating child sexual abuse, see the response to 134.186.	Supported	<p>The Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse was established by the UK Government as a statutory inquiry on 12 March 2015 to consider the growing evidence of institutional failures to protect children from child sexual abuse, and to make recommendations to ensure the best possible protection for children in future.</p> <p>In February 2017, the UK Government published a progress report on its actions to deal with child sexual exploitation, and it also announced the delivery of a £40 million package of measures to protect children and young people from sexual abuse, exploitation and trafficking, and to crack down on</p>	Supported

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>offenders.</p> <p>These measures include the launch of a new Centre of Expertise on child sexual abuse, an extra £20 million for the National Crime Agency to tackle online child sexual exploitation, £2.2 million for organisations working to protect children at risk of trafficking and the launch of Independent Child Trafficking Advocates.</p> <p>In 2018 the UK Government revised ‘Working Together to Safeguard Children’ and ‘Keeping Children Safe in Education’ statutory safeguarding guidance to reflect ‘extra-familial harms’ to children including gangs, child sexual and criminal exploitation, to support local practitioners in preventing children from being abused and exploited.</p> <p>In May 2019, the UK Government launched a £2 million Tackling Child Exploitation Support Programme to support safeguarding partners in local areas to develop an effective strategic response to child exploitation and threats from outside the family home, including child sexual exploitation and child criminal exploitation.</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>The UK Government has delivered three phases of a public-facing campaign ‘Together, we can Tackle Child Abuse’ to raise awareness of the signs of child abuse and increase confidence in reporting.</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND:</p> <p>See the response to recommendation 134.42.</p> <p>In addition, the Scottish Government is taking forward a range of further measures across sectors, to address and tackle child abuse and exploitation. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roll out of a strategic programme to develop a shared minimum dataset to support child protection improvement and inform local planning and service development • Taking forward the recommendations of an expert group, convened by the Scottish Government, with a focus on preventing children and young people from becoming involved in harmful sexual behaviour and sexual offending, including where 	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>offences occur online.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioning the development of Scotland-specific standards for Barnahus, based on the European PROMISE quality standards, which outline best practice for countries that wish to develop the model. These standards will balance a child's right to recovery from the point at which they disclose abuse with their right to access justice in a child-centred way, in line with the principles of the UNCRC. • The Chief Medical Officer for Scotland's Taskforce for the improvement of healthcare and forensic medical services for victims of sexual crime in Scotland, which is underpinned by a number of subgroups. An expert group was established to focus specifically on improving services for children and young people who have experienced child sexual abuse, in line with Barnahus principles and <i>Getting it right for every child</i>. • Participation and collaboration with the UK Government on developing a media literacy strategy and representing 	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>Scotland's interest in the development of legislative and non-legislative measures to ensure online service providers take more responsibility for the safety of their users.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued funding to third sector organisations in Scotland to strengthen the support to children, young people and their families affected by harm, abuse and neglect, as well as raising awareness and targeting potential perpetrators to support behavioural change. Partnership working with Police Scotland and Social Work Scotland to take forward recommendations of the Evidence and Procedure Review to improve the quality and consistency of Joint Investigative Interviews (JIIs) of children. The aim is that JII statements can be used as Evidence in Chief and contribute to the improvements being made to remove the need for children to give evidence in court and so reduce the potential for further trauma for child victims and witnesses. 	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
134.201 (investigating child sexual abuse)	Russian Federation	Complete the investigation on numerous cases of sexual violence against children perpetrated by the high level officials and bring the perpetrators to justice.	See the response to 134.186. It would be inappropriate to pre-empt the result of the ongoing inquiry.	Noted	The UK position remains unchanged from 2017.	Noted
134.202 (combating child sexual abuse)	Algeria	Take more measures to fight against sexual exploitation of children and violence against them.	See the response to 134.186.	Supported	The UK position remains unchanged from 2017. IN SCOTLAND: See the response to 134.200.	Supported
134.203 (abolishing life sentences for minors)	Paraguay	Abolish the life sentence for minors in conformity with the Convention on the Rights of the Child.	Young offenders who are convicted of the most serious crimes can be sentenced to “Detention at Her Majesty’s pleasure” or can receive a sentence of detention for life. However, these sentences do not automatically mean that they will be in custody for life. The court will set an initial tariff which the offender must serve in custody, and after having served the initial tariff, the offender will be considered for release on licence and can from that point be released and supervised in the community while being subject to licence conditions. The UK Government is confident that this approach is consistent with its obligations under the CRC.	Noted	To add to our rationale in 2017, the UK Government believes that it is entirely right that there should be a life sentence when murder is committed, including when the offence is committed by those under the age of 18. This reflects the extreme seriousness of the offence and the importance of ensuring that the public is protected. We have no plans to abolish those sentences. In addition, in the case of under-18s there are a number of significant safeguards in place which ensure that this sentence is applied in a proportionate manner, reflecting both the age of the child when the offence was committed as well as their capacity for change. We believe that our provisions are	Noted

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>proportionate and appropriate and that this approach is consistent with our obligations under the CRC.</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND: Persons under the age of 18 can receive in Scots law a sentence of detention without limit of time for certain offences. This sentence however does not require a young person to serve the rest of their life in custody; instead it is for the court to determine what the minimum period they must serve before they can be considered for release on parole. When sentencing, the court will take into account all the relevant facts and circumstances and this includes the age of the person convicted of the offence.</p>	
134.204 (abolishing life sentences for minors)	Greece	Consider abolishing the mandatory imposition of life imprisonment for offences committed by children under the age of 18.	See the response to 134.203.	Noted	<p>See the response to 134.203.</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND: See the response to 134.204.</p>	Noted
134.205 (raising the minimum age of criminal responsibility)	Albania	Raise the minimum age of criminal responsibility in accordance with acceptable international	The UK Government believes that children aged 10 are able to differentiate between bad behaviour and serious wrongdoing, and it is right that they should be held accountable for their actions. Children and young people need to be aware that committing a criminal	Noted	Our position remains the same as in 2017. We believe that children aged 10 and older can differentiate between bad behaviour and serious criminal wrongdoing and it is right to hold them to account for their behaviour. It is	Noted

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
		standards and abolish the mandatory imposition of life imprisonment for offences committed by children under the age of 18.	<p>offence is a serious matter and will be dealt with as such.</p> <p>Having the age of criminal responsibility set at 10 allows flexibility to deal with young offenders and reflects the requirements of the justice system in England and Wales.</p> <p>The UK Government accepts that prosecution is not always the most appropriate response to youth offending and it is keen to avoid this whenever possible. That is why, where appropriate, children and young people in this age group are diverted from the criminal justice system or dealt with by way of an out-of-court disposal. This approach can be a more effective means of preventing reoffending.</p> <p>IN NORTHERN IRELAND:</p> <p>Any change to the age of criminal responsibility would require cross-party support, and there is currently an absence of sufficient political support to implement such an increase.</p> <p>The progressive youth justice system in Northern Ireland, underpinned by restorative justice principles, has meant that very few children under the age of 12 enter the formal criminal justice system.</p>		<p>important to address children’s offending behaviour and setting the minimum age of criminal responsibility at 10 allows for early intervention in a child’s life to provide them with the necessary support to make positive changes in their lives and tackle reoffending.</p> <p>IN NORTHERN IRELAND: There are no current plans to amend the minimum age of criminal responsibility. However, the Department of Justice continues to implement a policy to divert children of all ages – but in particular younger children – from the formal criminal justice system and deal with them through welfare or diversionary measures at the earliest possible stage. Any future legislative changes to youth justice disposals will take this policy into account and will consider whether certain disposals should be age-dependent, particularly the use of custody. Mandatory life imprisonment for children does not happen in NI. Rather, there are a range of custodial disposals available to the court and a child will be sentenced according to the unique circumstances of each case.</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
			<p>Those that do are almost always engaged in low-level offending and dealt with by diversionary measures.</p> <p>Criminal justice agencies continue to work in partnership with other statutory and voluntary organisations to divert children from crime and the criminal justice system.</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND:</p> <p>The Scottish Government will introduce a Bill in the current parliamentary session to increase the minimum age of criminal responsibility from 8 to 12, with appropriate safeguards in relation to issues such as police powers in exceptional cases to investigate harmful behaviours or to take and retain forensic samplings, disclosure, and the impact on victims.</p>		<p>IN SCOTLAND:</p> <p>Act 2019 was passed unanimously by the Scottish Parliament. Votes on raising the age of criminal responsibility (ACR) to 14 years old and 16 years old were defeated by 108 votes to 11 and 110 votes to 10 respectively.</p> <p>Once fully commenced, the Age of Criminal Responsibility (Scotland) Act 2019 will increase the age of criminal responsibility from 8 to 12 years of age. Implementation of the Act will be undertaken as quickly and safely as possible. From 29 November 2019, children under 12 will only be referred by a reporter to a children’s hearing on care and protection grounds, and not on offence grounds. This means that from this date, children younger than 12 cannot accrue convictions or criminal records. Primary school-aged children will no longer be stigmatised from being labelled as an offender at such a young and vulnerable age, which will improve their life chances.</p> <p>Scotland has proven approaches to confronting and correcting childhood behaviour that do not need a criminal</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>justice response, with the great majority of children under 16 who commit offences being dealt with through the welfare-focused children's hearings system, rather than by the criminal justice system.</p> <p>The increase in the age of criminal responsibility from 8 to 12 is a significant reform that will need to be carefully evaluated to identify further policy, legislative, system and practical changes that may be required to ensure that the Act has been safely implemented. The Act, therefore, provides that the Scottish Ministers must carry out a review within 3 years of the commencement of section 1 of the Act (which increases the age to 12). The review is to evaluate the operation of the Act generally as well as to consider a future age of criminal responsibility. Evaluation of the Act will ensure that operational learning and experience about how the legislation and associated change programme operates for the under-12 age group can be taken into account as part of the overall consideration of a future age of criminal responsibility in Scotland.</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>An Advisory Group was set up in August this year and has been asked to assist Scottish Ministers in undertaking the review by considering the following issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • age of prosecution; • grounds for referral to Children’s Hearings; • disclosure of criminal records and non-criminal police information; • the taking, storage, retention and destruction of forensic samples; • police investigatory powers; • victims and community confidence; • the jurisdiction and powers of the Children’s Hearings System; • the role of the criminal justice system; and • UNCRC compliance. <p>In taking this work forward, the Group will balance: (i) the rights of children who have committed harmful behaviour currently understood as criminal; and (ii) the rights of the public, including other children, who have been, or are at risk of being, harmed by a child’s behaviour. The Group will also be mindful of the State’s obligations under the European</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					Convention on Human Rights to maintain an effective system for investigating and prosecuting crime.	
134.206 (raising the minimum age of criminal responsibility)	Peru	Consider revising the minimum age for criminal responsibility.	See the response to 134.205.	Noted	The UK position remains unchanged from 2017.	Noted
134.207 (raising the minimum age of criminal responsibility)	Belarus	In line with the recommendations of the Committee of the Rights of the Child, consider the possibility of increasing the age of criminal responsibility in line with accepted international standards.	See the response to 134.205.	Noted	The UK position remains unchanged from 2017.	Noted
134.208 (raising the minimum age of criminal responsibility)	Bulgaria	Raise the minimum age of criminal responsibility in accordance with acceptable international standards.	See the response to 134.205.	Noted	The UK position remains unchanged from 2017.	Noted
134.209 (employment opportunities for disabled people)	Israel	Implement measures in support of enhanced participation of people with disabilities in the	The UK Government is committed to enabling all disabled people to fulfil their potential and achieve their aspirations. A wide suite of employment related	Supported	In November 2017, Improving Lives: The Future of Work, Health and Disability set out the UK Government's ten-year plan, including an ambition to see one million more	Supported

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
		work force.	<p>programmes and initiatives are available to support disabled people into work including providing help with the additional costs faced by individuals whose health or disability affects the way they do their job.</p> <p>Welfare reforms since 2012 have included measures to ensure that disabled people receive the support that they need. For example: vulnerable claimants are exempted from the benefit cap. The UK Government also continues to fulfil its statutory obligation to increase benefits to meet additional disability needs, and carer benefits, in line with the growth in prices.</p> <p>The Work and Health Unit, a cross-government unit sponsored by the Department of Health and the Department for Work and Pensions, was established in 2015 to work across Government to improve the health and employment outcomes of working age people who have or may acquire health conditions and disabilities.</p> <p>In October 2016, the UK Government published a green paper on Work, Health & Disability, which set out the short-term action intended to take to bring about change, seeking to further improve work-related support for disabled people with the longer term aim of halving the disability</p>		<p>disabled people in work by 2027.</p> <p>Improving Lives stressed the importance of action across three settings - workplaces, health services and the welfare system, with a focus on four key issues: help for employers to play their part; improving and extending occupational health (OH support); strengthening the contribution of the health system, and, providing more personalised into-work support to individuals</p> <p>The UK Government's, 'Health is Everyone's Business – Proposals to Reduce Ill-Health Job Loss' (July 2019), consulted on proposals to: make changes to the legal framework to encourage employers to provide modifications to support employees with health issues affecting work, reform Statutory Sick Pay; improve occupational health provision, especially for small employers and self-employed people; improve employers' and self-employed people's access to good advice and support.</p> <p>Other Employer-facing initiatives include Disability Confident which encourages and equips employers to</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
			<p>employment gap.</p> <p>A 3-month national consultation was held, which received a great response from organisations and individuals with disabilities and long-term health conditions. This will be used to inform and shape the Government's next steps to improve health and employment outcomes for disabled people and people with long-term health conditions. The UK Government has also commissioned an independent review to help those with mental health conditions thrive in the workplace.</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND:</p> <p>On 2 December 2016, the Scottish Government published its new Disability Delivery Plan, 'A Fairer Scotland for Disabled People', which will work to remove the barriers disabled people can face when it comes to finding and sustaining employment, and developing their careers.</p> <p>The Scottish Government is committed to supporting those disabled people who can and want to work towards and into sustainable employment suitable to their skills and needs. The Scottish Government has committed to working towards halving the disability employment gap, and is</p>		<p>think positively about disability and to take action to improve how they recruit, retain and develop disabled employees, and Access to Work, which helps to pay for special aids and equipment, that support disabled people at work, that are not covered by employer's reasonable adjustments.</p> <p>Voluntary Employer Reporting: The UK government has worked with large employers and expert partners to develop a voluntary reporting framework, to support employers to record and report information on disability, mental health and wellbeing (published in November 2018).</p> <p>Personalised into work support: a wide suite of voluntary employment-related programmes and initiatives are available to support disabled people into work, which provide a personalised and tailored approach to meeting their needs, including providing help with the additional costs faced by individuals whose health or disability affects the way they do their job.</p> <p>In addition, the Personal Support Package provides £330m over four</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
			<p>continuing to support disabled people through different programmes. These include supporting disabled young people to make the successful journey through education and training into work through Scotland’s youth employment strategy “Developing the Young Workforce”, and delivering devolved employment services directly targeted at supporting more disabled people into work.</p> <p>IN WALES:</p> <p>The Welsh Government’s Framework for Action on Independent Living focuses on delivery and sets out the actions being undertaken across Welsh Government departments and with external partners. It recognises there are barriers to equality and inclusion which must be removed to create a level playing field.</p>		<p>years from April 17, for claimants affected by the removal of the Work Related Activity Component and has helped support to enable claimants with health conditions and disabilities to move closer to the labour market.</p> <p>Building the Evidence Base: an Innovation Fund was established, jointly funded by DWP, DHSC, and NHS England. Until March 2020, this tested different types of support for disabled people and those with health conditions to get into, and remain in, work. This funding also supports major on-going health trials to robustly test more personalised and tailored employment and health support for disabled people and people with long term health conditions.</p> <p>The Department (DWP) has announced it will be bringing forward a Green Paper on health and disability support, focusing on the welfare system. The Green Paper will explore how the welfare system can better meet the needs of disabled people and people with health conditions now and in the future, to build a system that enables people to live independently and move into work where possible. Improving</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>employment support will be a key theme in the Green Paper. The quality of our employment support offer is key to supporting those that are able back into work. We therefore want to consult on ways to provide effective and appropriate employment support.</p> <p>In addition, the UK is developing a National Strategy for Disabled People which will take into account the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on disabled people. The strategy will focus on the issues that disabled people say affect them the most in all aspects of life, including employment.</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND: <i>A Fairer Scotland for Disabled People: Employment Action Plan</i>⁵⁵ (December 2018) sets out 50 actions the Scottish Government will take to reduce the employment gap between disabled people and the rest of the working age population (the disability employment gap) by at least half by 2038. The plan covers three themes identified by disabled people during the development of the plan:</p>	

⁵⁵ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/fairer-scotland-disabled-people-employment-action-plan/>

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting employers to recruit and retain disabled people • Supporting disabled people to enter employment • Young people and transitions. <p>Some of the actions in the plan to support enhanced participation of people with disabilities in the workforce include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Setting a target for the employment of disabled people in the Scottish Government's own workforce, which is detailed in the <i>Recruitment and Retention Plan for Disabled People</i> (August 2019)⁵⁶ • Investing up to £1 million to establish a Public Social Partnership (PSP), involving employers, government and disabled people's organisations, to develop, test and implement solutions to the barriers disabled people face in hiring and retaining disabled people. • Investing up to £500,000 of new funding to provide support similar 	

⁵⁶ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/fairer-scotland-disabled-people-scottish-government-recruitment-retention-plan-disabled-people-2019/pages/3/>

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>to Access to Work to disabled people undertaking work experience or work trials.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investing up to £6 million of additional resource from the Child Poverty Fund to co-produce with disabled parents a pilot fund - targeted towards areas with the highest levels of child poverty and the lowest levels of employment - to identify and address the barriers disabled people face to entering and sustaining employment. <p>IN WALES: In the Employability Plan, published in March 2018, we set out our ambitions to support people across Wales into work today, whilst also preparing the workforce for the immediate and long-term challenges of the future. Employability is one of the six priority areas – identified as having the greatest potential contribution to long-term prosperity and well-being – in Prosperity for All. This is a cross government plan, which makes the links between skills and training, and other policy areas which impact on employment opportunities such as health, housing, transport and care. A cross Government Board is</p>	

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			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>chaired by Andrew Jeffreys, Director of Welsh Treasury, and the plan implementation managed by a small cross government team.</p> <p>We have committed to stretching ten-year targets to set the direction for all partners working on employability, to coordinate efforts, improve efficiency and reduce duplication of activity. The plan sets out ambitious targets to close the gap with the rest of the UK in terms of unemployment, economic inactivity and qualification levels.</p> <p>We committed to developing a target to increase the number of disabled people into work.</p> <p>Through setting a target, we hope to provoke the step change necessary within both workplaces and society to break down the barriers being faced by disabled people and those with long-term health conditions seeking employment.</p> <p>Significant work has been undertaken both with the sector, with partners and across government to inform appropriate target setting and actions to deliver the commitment.</p>	
134.210 (rights of	Syrian Arab Republic	Enable indigenous peoples in the	The UK Government voted in favour of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous	Noted	The UK position remains unchanged from 2017.	Noted

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
indigenous people)		territories they occupy to exercise their right to self-determination, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations.	<p>Peoples in 2007.</p> <p>There are no indigenous or tribal people in the UK, the Crown Dependencies or Overseas Territories, as defined by Article 1A of ILO Convention 169 on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples. The UK remains committed to promoting the rights of indigenous people overseas.</p> <p>The principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, as enshrined in the UN Charter, applies to the peoples of the Overseas Territories and the Crown Dependencies, and the UK Government is committed to promoting these rights.</p>			
134.211 (complying with the UN Charter)	Syrian Arab Republic	Respect the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations.	The UK played a key role in the UN at its inception and remains committed to the universal values shared by the UN and enshrined in the UN charter.	Supported	<p>The UK position remains unchanged from 2017.</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND: The Scottish Government is committed to creating a modern, inclusive Scotland that protects, respects and fulfils internationally recognised human rights principles, and to securing democracy, the rule of law and fundamental human rights across the world.</p>	Supported

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
134.212 (rights of indigenous people)	Syrian Arab Republic	Stop the forced evictions of indigenous peoples in the territories under occupation.	See the response to 134.210.	Noted	The UK position remains unchanged from 2017.	Noted
134.213 (compliance of immigration law with the CRC)	Honduras	Review the 2016 Immigration Act in order to ensure its compatibility with the Convention on the Rights of the Child.	See the response to 134.190.	Noted	The UK position remains unchanged from 2017.	Noted
134.214 (integration of migrants and refugees)	Lebanon	Develop social integration policies, especially for migrants and refugees.	See the response to 134.99.	Supported	The Government published the Integrated Communities Strategy green paper in March 2018, which invited views on our vision for building strong, integrated communities. Alongside our response to the consultation on the green paper, the Government published the Integrated Communities Action Plan in February 2019. In the Action Plan, the UK government committed to work with civil society and others to increase integration support for all migrants and refugees in the UK. In particular, the Home Office's focus is on supporting refugees with English language, employment and entrepreneurship, and wellbeing and social capital. Since then, significant progress has been made: The Government, led by the	Supported

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>Department for Education, is developing a cross government English Language strategy for adults. We have recently launched, via the Education and Training Foundation, new online resources to support English language teachers working with refugees who arrive with the lowest levels of English language. We are supporting Mayoral Combined Authorities and English language providers to commission and deliver effective English language provision for refugees. We are providing grant funding to bring relevant refugee and English language stakeholders together, to identify and share good practice. The findings will be published in a toolkit and made available to all those working with, and for, refugees. In partnership with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the International Organisation for Migration, Business in the Community and the Department for Work and Pensions, we recently published the guide 'Tapping Potential' which supports businesses in employing and developing refugees. In addition, a pilot to encourage refugee entrepreneur programmes across the UK has been launched with</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>the Centre for Entrepreneurs (CFE) with funding from the Home Office and The National Lottery Community Fund. This pilot will build the evidence base of what works, provide a toolkit of resources, and build a community of delivery bodies to help roll out refugee entrepreneurship programmes nationwide, in addition to providing 120+ refugees start-up training and mentoring.</p> <p>We published a new Welcome Guide in the summer for non-resettled refugees to provide information to support their cultural orientation and integration. This builds on the Welcome Guide for resettled refugees. We operate a community sponsorship scheme, enabling local communities to get involved in supporting the integration of refugees resettled to the UK. The Government is funding a civil society organisation to deliver training for community groups to support refugee integration.</p> <p>The Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government launched the Integration Area Programme in 2018). A place-based programme testing what works when supporting partners in a local area - including local government, social</p>	

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<p>(VCS) sector, local businesses and employers, schools and faith organisations in Blackburn, Bradford, Peterborough, Walsall & Waltham Forest. We are aiming to fund this programme until March 2021.</p> <p>IN SCOTLAND: The Scottish Government is committed to supporting refugees, asylum seekers and Scotland's communities through the pioneering and collaborative approach of the <i>New Scots refugee integration strategy</i>.⁵⁷</p> <p>The Scottish Government sees integration as a two-way process that involves positive change in both the individuals and the host communities, and which leads to cohesive, multi-cultural communities.</p> <p>The <i>New Scots</i> strategy includes a framework of actions across seven themes of integration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Needs of Asylum Seekers; • Employability and Welfare Rights; 	

⁵⁷ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/new-scots-refugee-integration-strategy-2018-2022/>

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing; • Education; • Language; • Health and Wellbeing; • Communities, Culture and Social Connections. 	
134.215 (immigration detention; visa for foreign spouses)	Brazil	Take steps to revise the legislation on immigration by introducing time limits for the detention of migrants and asylum seekers, as well as considering revising the changes introduced to visas for foreign spouses based on income criteria.	<p>On immigration detention, see the response to 134.27.</p> <p>Appendix FM and FM-SE to the Immigration Rules provide a route to settlement for non-EEA⁵⁸ partners (fiancé(e), proposed civil partner, spouse, civil partner or unmarried partner) wishing to come to or remain in the UK with family who are British, settled (have indefinite leave to remain) or who are in the UK with refugee leave. These Rules, which since July 2012 have included a minimum income requirement, reflect the qualified nature of Article 8 ECHR, properly balance the individual right to respect for private or family life with the public interest in safeguarding the economic well-being of the UK by controlling immigration, in protecting the public from foreign criminals and in protecting the rights and freedoms of</p>	Noted	<p>On immigration detention - As the former Prisons and Probation Ombudsman Stephen Shaw said in his follow-up independent review of detainee welfare in 2018, although some people have called for a 28-day detention time limit in the UK, we are yet to see a coherent account of how this figure has been arrived at. He suggested that the debate on a 28-day time limit rests more on slogans than on evidence. In the year ending September 2020, data shows that the overwhelming majority of people who left detention - 96% - were detained for less than 4 months, and 76% for 28 days or less. An internal review of how time limits work in other countries was undertaken in 2018. Although the UK context is not always directly comparable to the situation in other</p>	Noted

⁵⁸ European Economic Area

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
			<p>others.</p> <p>The purpose of the minimum income threshold is to ensure that family migrants are supported at a reasonable level so that they do not become a burden on the taxpayer and they can participate sufficiently in everyday life to facilitate their integration into British society. The Immigration Act 2014 made clear the public interest in family migrants being financially independent and able to speak English.</p> <p>The minimum income threshold replaced the previous adequate maintenance requirement (around £5,800 a year) that was not an adequate basis for sustainable family migration and integration. It was set, following advice from the independent UK Migration Advisory Committee, at £18,600 for sponsoring a partner, rising to £22,400 for also sponsoring a non-EEA national child and an additional £2,400 for each further such child. This reflects the level of income at which a British family or a family settled in the UK generally ceases to be able to access income-related benefits.</p>		<p>countries, this review has shown that few other countries adopt very short time limits, and that many countries face similar challenges to the UK when it comes to returning those with no right to remain and who refuse to leave voluntarily.</p> <p>Appendix FM and FM-SE to the Immigration Rules provide a route to settlement for non-EEA⁵⁹ partners (fiancé(e), proposed civil partner, spouse, civil partner or unmarried partner) wishing to come to or remain in the UK with family who are British, settled (have indefinite leave to remain) or who are in the UK with refugee leave. These Rules, which since July 2012 have included a minimum income requirement, reflect the qualified nature of Article 8 ECHR, properly balance the individual right to respect for private or family life with the public interest in safeguarding the economic well-being of the UK by controlling immigration, in protecting the public from foreign criminals and in protecting the rights and freedoms of</p>	

⁵⁹ European Economic Area

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
			<p>The UK Government has continued to keep the new family Immigration Rules under review and to make adjustments in light of feedback on their operation and impact. We have also taken into account the findings of the courts, including the UK Supreme Court judgment upholding the lawfulness of the minimum income threshold. This ongoing review process will continue. However, the UK Government is satisfied overall that the Immigration Rules are having the right impact.</p>		<p>others.</p> <p>The purpose of the minimum income threshold is to ensure that family migrants are supported at a reasonable level so that they do not become a burden on the taxpayer and they can participate sufficiently in everyday life to facilitate their integration into British society. The Immigration Act 2014 made clear the public interest in family migrants being financially independent and able to speak English.</p> <p>The minimum income threshold replaced the previous adequate maintenance requirement (around £5,800 a year) that was not an adequate basis for sustainable family migration and integration. It was set, following advice from the independent UK Migration Advisory Committee, at £18,600 for sponsoring a partner, rising to £22,400 for also sponsoring a non-EEA national child and an additional £2,400 for each further such child. This reflects the level of income at which a British family or a family settled in the UK generally ceases to be able to access income-related benefits.</p> <p>The UK Government has continued to</p>	

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					keep the family Immigration Rules under review and to make adjustments in light of feedback on their operation and impact. We have also taken into account the findings of the courts, including the UK Supreme Court judgment upholding the lawfulness of the minimum income threshold. This ongoing review process will continue. However, the UK Government is satisfied overall that the Immigration Rules are having the right impact.	
134.216 (rights of migrants)	Morocco	Continue and strengthen the promotion of the rights of migrants residing in the United Kingdom.	See the response to 134.121.	Supported	See the response to 134.121.	Supported
134.217 (immigration detention)	Germany	Introduce a general statutory time limit on immigration detention and ensure such detention is not used in the case of vulnerable individuals or groups.	See the response to 134.27.	Noted	For time limits on detention-see recommendation 134.215. The UK introduced the Adults at Risk in immigration policy in 2016 as part of its response to Stephen Shaw's first independent review of detainee welfare. Under this policy individuals considered vulnerable are only detained (or their detention continued) where the immigration control considerations that apply in their case e.g. proximity of removal or public protection concerns outweigh the	Noted

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					evidence of their vulnerability.	
134.218 (immigration detention)	Mexico	Incorporate a prohibition to indefinite detention of migrants in the 2016 Declaration on Immigration and search for alternatives to detention.	See the response to 134.27.	Noted	For “indefinite” detention of migrants- see recommendation 134. 27 Published Home Office detention policy set out in Chapter 55 of the Enforcement Instructions and Guidance is clear that there is a presumption in favour of the grant of immigration bail to those who are liable to be detained: wherever possible alternatives to detention must be used.	Noted
134.219 (immigration detention)	Bangladesh	Like other European countries set statutory time limit for immigration detention and ensure that children are not subjected to such detention.	See the response to 134.27.	Noted	For time limits on detention see recommendation 134.215. The UK ended the routine detention of families with children in immigration removal centres in 2010, following the introduction of the Family Returns Process. Notwithstanding this, to secure the border the UK has always been clear that it remains necessary, on occasions, to hold families with children for short periods at port pending a decision on whether to grant them entry to the UK or, having been refused entry, pending their return flight. In addition, unaccompanied children may be detained in a limited number of	Noted

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					circumstances, most commonly for short periods at the border pending alternative care arrangements being made for them (with family/friends or local authority Children’s Services).	
134.220 (overseas domestic workers)	Honduras	Revise its regulation and administrative practices in order to protect human rights of female domestic migrant workers, in particular when their work permits are linked to the employer and have been victims of human trafficking and work exploitation.	<p>On combating human trafficking and modern slavery, see the response to 134.138.</p> <p>The UK Government recognises that overseas domestic workers are a potentially vulnerable group of workers. Visa applications are subject to checks to ensure that the employment of such workers will comply with UK employment law. The UK has recently adjusted its policies to strike a better balance between enabling such workers to escape abuse and exploitation and ensuring that abuse is reported so that abusers can be identified. In particular, the UK has removed the “employer tie” which prevented such workers from finding alternative employment, and now provides that those found to be the victims of modern slavery can be granted an extension of stay for up to 2 years.</p>	Supported	<p>On combating human trafficking and modern slavery, see the response to 134.138.</p> <p>The UK Government recognises that overseas domestic workers are a potentially vulnerable group of workers. Visa applications are subject to checks to ensure that the employment of such workers will comply with UK employment law. The UK has recently adjusted its policies to strike a better balance between enabling such workers to escape abuse and exploitation and ensuring that abuse is reported so that abusers can be identified. In particular, the UK has removed the “employer tie” which prevented such workers from finding alternative employment, and now provides that those found to be the victims of modern slavery can be granted an extension of stay for up to 2 years.</p>	Supported
134.221 (compatibility)	Indonesia	Improve on the United Kingdom’s	See the response to 134.190.	Noted	The UK position remains unchanged from 2017.	Noted

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
of immigration law with the CRC)		Immigration Act 2016 dealing with the refugees to be compatible with United Nations Human Rights Conventions particularly the Convention on the Rights of the Child.				
134.222 (family reunification for asylum seekers)	Honduras	Reform its directive on family reunification to establish specifically family reunification for child asylum seekers relocated to the United Kingdom or who have been recognised as refugees.	<p>Our family reunion policy allows a spouse or partner and children under the age of 18 of those granted protection in the UK to join them here, if they formed part of the family unit before the sponsor fled their country.</p> <p>The policy meets our international obligations and we do not believe that widening the criteria to include extended family members, or allow children to sponsor parents, is appropriate. We must not create perverse incentives for people, particularly children, to leave their families and risk dangerous journeys hoping relatives can join them later.</p> <p>Nevertheless, Home Office policy on family reunion sets out that where an application fails under the Immigration Rules, we consider whether there are exceptional circumstances or compassionate reasons to justify granting a visa outside the Rules.</p>	Noted	<p>Our family reunion policy allows a spouse or partner and children under the age of 18 of those granted protection in the UK to join them here, if they formed part of the family unit before the sponsor fled their country.</p> <p>We believe that if children were allowed to sponsor parents, this would risk creating incentives for more children to be encouraged, or even forced, to leave their family and risk hazardous journeys to the UK. This plays into the hands of criminal gangs who exploit vulnerable people and goes against our safeguarding responsibilities.</p> <p>Nevertheless, Home Office policy on family reunion sets out that where an application fails under the Immigration Rules, we consider whether there are</p>	Noted

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
					exceptional circumstances or compassionate reasons to justify granting a visa outside the Rules.	
134.223 (family reunification for refugees)	Argentina	Take the necessary measures to guarantee the exercise of the right to family reunification of unaccompanied children recognized as refugees or resettled.	<p>The UK policy on family reunion meets our international obligations and supports the principle of family unity. However, allowing children to sponsor parents would create perverse incentives for them to be encouraged, or even forced, to leave their family and risk hazardous journeys to the UK to sponsor relatives. This plays into the hands of criminal gangs who exploit vulnerable people and goes against our safe guarding responsibilities.</p> <p>Nevertheless, Home Office policy on family reunion sets out that where an application fails under the Immigration Rules, we consider whether there are exceptional circumstances or compassionate reasons to justify granting a visa outside the Rules.</p>	Noted	<p>Our family reunion policy allows a spouse or partner and children under the age of 18 of those granted protection in the UK to join them here, if they formed part of the family unit before the sponsor fled their country.</p> <p>We believe that if children were allowed to sponsor parents, this would risk creating incentives for more children to be encouraged, or even forced, to leave their family and risk hazardous journeys to the UK. This plays into the hands of criminal gangs who exploit vulnerable people and goes against our safeguarding responsibilities.</p> <p>Nevertheless, Home Office policy on family reunion sets out that where an application fails under the Immigration Rules, we consider whether there are exceptional circumstances or compassionate reasons to justify granting a visa outside the Rules.</p>	Noted
134.224 (immigration detention, and access to	Ecuador	Implement the recommendations of the Working Group on Arbitrary	<p>See the responses to 134.27 and 134.121.</p> <p>All claimants in detention have the opportunity to be legally represented during</p>	Noted	<p>See the responses to 134.27 and 134.121.</p> <p>The UK position remains unchanged</p>	Noted

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
			Rationale	Supported / Noted ²	Rationale	Supported / Noted
services for asylum seekers)		Detentions and the Human Rights Committee regarding the detention of asylum seekers, including political asylum, and guarantee the full enjoyment of their right to freedom of movement and the full and immediate access to independent medical personnel and legal representation.	the consideration of their asylum claim. Legal representation (advocacy and advocacy related services) is generally available for asylum appeals subject to means and merits tests. All detainees have ready access to healthcare services, with medical personnel onsite 24/7 at all detention centres.		from 2017.	
134.225 (rights of stateless persons)	Hungary	Categorise statelessness as a protection status and provide stateless persons expedited and affordable access to British nationality.	See the response to 134.53.	Noted	See the response to 134.53.	Noted
134.226 (Chagossians)	Mauritius	Urge the United Kingdom to take appropriate measures, including completion of the decolonisation process of Mauritius and respect the legitimate right of resettlement of the Chagossians, aimed at bringing the United	The welfare of Chagossians is extremely important. The UK Government has expressed sincere regret about the manner in which Chagossians were removed from the British Indian Ocean Territory in the late 1960s and early 1970s. The UK has shown that regret through practical action and support for the Chagossians ever since, including through the payment of compensation. The UK Government recognises the	Noted	The UK position is unchanged from 2017.	Noted

Reference	UN Member making the recommendation	Recommendation	UK position 2017		UK position 2020	
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		Kingdom into full compliance with its human rights obligations.	aspirations of some Chagossians to resettle in the Archipelago. Following an independent feasibility study published in 2013, a public consultation found that most Chagossians would be deterred from resettling by the likely conditions of civilian life on what are very remote and low-lying islands. In 2016, the UK Government decided against resettlement on the grounds of feasibility and cost, as well as incompatibility with continuing defence and security interests. While we have ruled out resettlement, we are determined to address the Chagossians' desire for better lives; their desire for connections with the territory. So, we are implementing a 50 million US dollar support package, which is being designed to improve Chagossian livelihoods in the communities where they now live: in Mauritius, the Seychelles and the UK. This is not a matter of decolonisation.			
134.227 (colonisation)	Syrian Arab Republic	Apologize to the peoples and the countries it colonized or it attacked and to provide financial compensation to the peoples of these countries.	The UK enjoys good relations with the many independent States that emerged from the British Empire. Many of these States are members of the Commonwealth, an association of States based on equality and a shared attachment to common values, including of human rights, democracy and the rule of law.	Noted	The UK position remains unchanged from 2017.	Noted