

Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee

31st Meeting, 2022 (Session 6), Tuesday 6
December 2022

Scottish Human Rights Commission

Note by the Clerk

Introduction

1. The Scottish Human Rights Commission (SHRC) is Scotland's National Human Rights Institution. It is independent of the Scottish Parliament and Scottish Government.
2. It was set up under the [Scottish Commission for Human Rights Act 2006](#) (as amended). The SHRC is accountable to the people of Scotland through the Scottish Parliament and is accredited as an A-Status National Human Rights Institution within the United Nations (UN) human rights system
3. The SHRC has a general duty to:
 - Promote human rights by raising awareness and understanding; and
 - Encourage best practice in relation to human rights
4. At this meeting, the Committee will receive an update from the Scottish Human Rights Commission following the recent publication of its [annual report](#) for April 2021 – March 2022.

Participants

5. The Committee will hear from—
 - **Ian Duddy**, Chair;
 - **Jim Farish**, Commissioner;
 - **Eilidh Dickson**, Chair, Policy and International Officer

Format

6. The meeting will be held in person.

Topics

7. The session will be an opportunity to discuss such topics as —

- Strategic Plan 2020 – 2024;
- Strategic priorities - how these are set and measured;
- The impact of the pandemic on current projects and how these are progressing;
- Finance and staffing;
- Scotland's National Action Plan for Human Rights (SNAP 2) and how success will be measured;
- The Commission's recent [letter](#) to the Committee on scrutiny of the Universal Periodic Review process;
- The Commission's views on the Scottish Government's proposed human rights legislation;
- The impact and value of human rights training for Members of the Scottish Parliament.

**Clerks to the Committee
December 2022**