

Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee

1st Meeting, 2024 (Session 6), Tuesday 16
January 2024

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 2022 – March 2023.

Participants

5. The Committee will hear from—
 - **Jim Farish**, Commissioner;
 - **Shelley Gray**, Commissioner;
 - **Claire Methven O'Brien**, Commissioner, and
 - **Jan Savage**, Executive Director.

Format

6. The meeting will be held in person.

Topics

7. As well as the annual report, this session will be an opportunity to discuss such topics as—
- Strategic Plan 2024 – 2028 and how strategic priorities are set and measured;
 - Successes and where the Commission has made a difference;
 - Resources, finance and staffing;
 - Any other reports of note that have been or are due to be published;
 - Scotland's National Action Plan (SNAP 2) and how actions will be measured;
 - The Commission's views on the Scottish Government's proposed Human Rights Bill for Scotland and any impact it might have on its work.

Clerks to the Committee
January 2024