

**Criminal Justice Committee
Wednesday 15 January 2025
2nd Meeting, 2025 (Session 6)**

Police Investigations and Reviews Commissioner (PIRC) Annual Report 2023/2024

Note by the clerk

Introduction

1. The Committee will take evidence from Michelle Macleod, Commissioner, at today's meeting. She is joined by Sharon Smit, Accountable Officer and Phil Chapman, Director of Operations.
2. In 2013 the existing Police Complaints Commissioner for Scotland (PCCS) was transformed into the PIRC. Their remit was expanded with the creation of the single Police Service of Scotland (Police Scotland) that same year.
3. The purpose of the PIRC is to provide independent oversight and investigate incidents involving all policing bodies. They can also review the way they handle complaints from the public. Since 2013, the PIRC has carried out more than 800 investigations and handled almost 3000 complaint reviews.
4. The PIRC is funded by the Scottish Government. The Commissioner is appointed by and accountable to Scottish Ministers and is entirely independent of the police. Therefore, the Criminal Justice Committee has a role in scrutinising the PIRC.

2023/24 Annual Report

5. In November 2024 the PIRC published its [annual report and accounts for 2023/2024](#). Today's session gives Members the opportunity to ask questions of the PIRC team about their work as highlighted in their annual report, their plans for their future and any wider issues they wish to explore.

**Clerks to the Committee
January 2025**