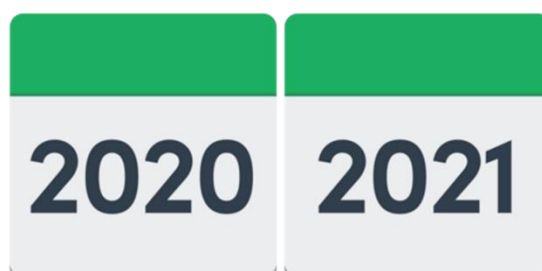


Scottish Human Rights Commission

SHRC

Scottish
Human Rights
Commission

Annual Report 2020 - 2021



Easy Read



About the Scottish Human Rights Commission



Human rights are the basic rights and freedoms that belong to every person in the world.



The Scottish Human Rights Commission works in Scotland to:

- look after people's rights
- check that the Scottish Government and its organisations are looking after people's rights



The Scottish Human Rights Commission reports to:

- the Scottish Parliament
- the United Nations



The Scottish Human Rights Commission can:



- help change laws
- make more people know about human rights
- look closely at how Scottish public organisations are doing

We have:



- 1 Chairperson who works full time
- 3 Commissioners who work part time
- 16 staff members



Our Aims



We made a new plan in March 2020.

We listened to a lot of different organisations and people to help us to write this new plan.



Our plan is called the Strategic Plan.

It has 4 aims for our work between 2020 and 2024.

Aim 1



To help get more legal protection for people's rights to things like:

- food
- housing
- health

Aim 2



To make sure that people follow human rights laws.

Aim 3



To get more people to know and understand human rights.



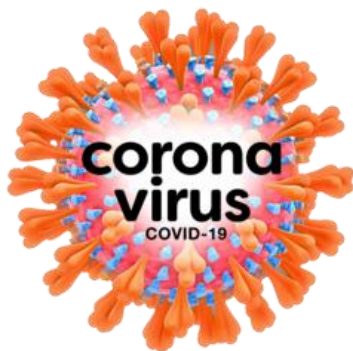
Aim 4

To make Scotland a leader in human rights compared to other countries.



Our Annual Report for 2020 to 2021

This is a summary of our Annual Report for April 2020 to March 2021.



This year was very different because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Lots of people asked us for extra help because COVID-19 made some human rights trickier.



We looked at lots of different human rights during the COVID-19 pandemic.

We let people know about the problems.



We wrote a report about human rights and social care.

This report helped the Independent Review of Adult Social Care.



We made some things better by helping to change:

- emergency laws
- prison guidelines
- health and medicine guidelines



We didn't have enough staff or money to do some things – like look at how the COVID-19 pandemic changed life for people who are **vulnerable**.



Vulnerable means someone might not be able to:

- take care of themselves
- stop someone from hurting them



We worked on our Strategic Plan aims.



We worked as part of a National Taskforce team.



The Scottish Government will now put international human rights laws into Scots law.



The laws will make a big difference to how people's rights will be:

- respected
- protected
- put into place



The Scottish Parliament also made 2 new laws about human rights:

1. To pay money to people who were abused in care when they were children.
2. To bring the children's rights from the United Nations Convention into Scots law.

It took many years of work to make this happen.



We have helped human rights to get talked about more in places like:

- newspapers
- TV
- social media
- the Scottish Parliament



We have made it easier for people with lived experience of human rights to help us.



The Scottish Government has given us money to work on the next part of the National Action Plan for Human Rights.



The COVID-19 pandemic meant that some things haven't happened yet.

These include:

- working on some of our legal powers
- looking at the international treaty
- some of our training



We have worked on making our organisation stronger.

Funding from the Scottish Parliament Corporate Body meant we could take on some extra staff.



We also wrote a report about our leadership.

We will take this report forward into 2021 and 2022.



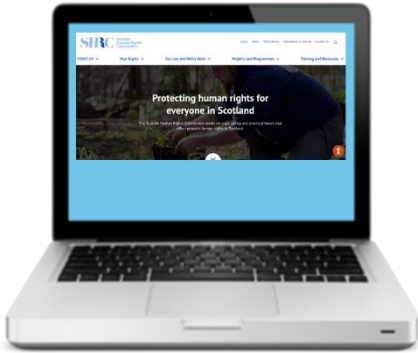
In 2021 and 2022 we will write a business plan to get more funding.

Even though it has been a tricky year, we have worked hard to get things done.

Find out more



We welcome the chance to work with people and organisations who have human rights issues.



You can find out more about us on our website www.scottishhumanrights.com



You can send us an email at hello@scottishhumanrights.com



You can also find us on:

- Twitter
- Facebook
- YouTube



This is the end of our Annual Report.

