

Scottish Human Rights Commission



Annual Report 2021 - 2022



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



In 2021 to 2022 we had:

- 1 Chairperson who worked full time
- 3 Commissioners who worked part time
- 17 staff members

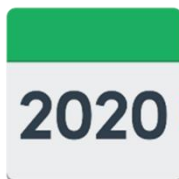


Our Aims



We wrote a plan in March 2020.

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



The 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

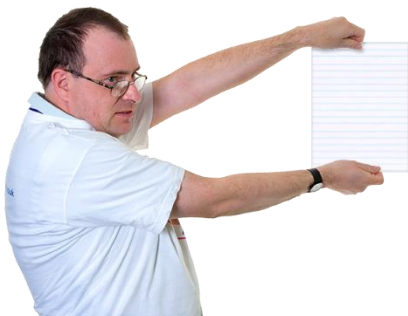
To make Scotland a leader in human rights compared to other countries.



Our Annual Report for 2021 to 2022



This Annual Report tells you about our work from April 2021 to March 2022.



This year the UK Government wanted to change human rights laws in the UK.

We have been telling people how important it is to keep the Human Rights Act instead.



We worked on our Strategic Plan aims.



In September 2021 the Scottish Government started work on a new Human Rights Bill for Scotland.

We are very happy about this.



We supported organisations by giving advice about human rights.



We carried on helping to get an Action Plan for Justice happening.

This is for people who were **abused** when they were children in care, many years ago.



Abused means hurt or harmed.



We helped write a Review.

The Review was about what action happens after people die when they are in prison or in police cells.

The Cabinet Secretary for Justice agreed with our advice.



We worked with the Scottish Parliament to:

- make COVID-19 laws better
- train some of their members in human rights



The United Nations **Climate Change** Conference happened in Glasgow. It was also called COP26.



Climate change means how our world and weather are warming up too fast.



We helped to organise a human rights online event at the same time.

More than a hundred people joined online.

We talked about human rights and climate change.



We wrote a report for the United Nations Human Rights Council.

We called it Scotland's Human Rights Report Card.



We told them that these human rights still need to be made better in Scotland for lots of people, including:



- children who live in poverty
- people in prison



We looked closely at how the COVID-19 pandemic is making some human rights harder to get.

We told people in charge how to make sure that human rights are planned for in any future pandemics.



We did not have enough money or staff to use all our legal powers this year.



Our Chair Judith Robertson left.

Our new Chair is Ian Duddy.

He has worked as Head of Human Rights in a department at the Foreign Office.



We were very happy that the United Nations gave us the highest grade as a National Human Rights Institution.

It is the third time we have been given the highest grade.



This shows that other countries see us as:

- strong
- experts
- good at what we do

Find out more



We always want to work with people and organisations which 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 @ScotHumanRights
- Facebook
- YouTube
- LinkedIn
- Instagram



This is the end of our Annual Report.