

Ms Kaukab Stewart
Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee
The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP

6 September 2023

Dear Ms Stewart

SHRC Governance Review

Dear Convenor

As a key stakeholder of the Scottish Human Rights Commission, I wanted to update you that an independent Governance Review of the Commission has now concluded.

As you are aware, earlier in 2023, the Commission made the decision to appoint an independent expert to undertake a review of its governance arrangements. This reflects a wider process of transformation to ensure the Commission is as effective as possible in its role as Scotland's National Human Rights Institution (NHRI). The Commission has welcomed the conclusion of the independent Governance Review, and members of the Commission have accepted its recommendations, as they impact on the Commission.

They have prepared a Vision Statement which has today been published on the Commission website at www.scottishhumanrights.com, along with a summary of the Governance Review recommendations, and a link to the full report. I am pleased to attach a copy of their Vision Statement for ease of reference.

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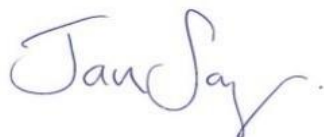
As Accountable Officer, I wanted to ensure that you were aware of this update, and of the future plans for the Commission's governance.

Across the team, we look forward to strengthening the governance of the Scottish Human Rights Commission to ensure that it is even stronger in its ability to serve the people of Scotland as the country's independent NHRI.

There are recommendations within the Review which the Members of the Commission have endorsed, but which will now be for the Scottish Parliament Corporate Body (SPCB) to consider further. This of course includes the process of recruiting a new Chair, which will be led by the Scottish Parliament in due course.

In the meantime, if you would like to discuss any element of the Review, or the ongoing work of the Commission against its 2023-24 Transitions Strategy, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jan Savage". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jan Savage
Executive Director

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