

Submission to the UN Human Rights Council NHRI Report on the United Kingdom's 4th Cycle Universal Periodic Review

30th March 2022

The Scottish Human Rights Commission (SHRC), formed in 2008, was established by the Scottish Commission for Human Rights Act 2006. It is the **National Human Rights Institution (NHRI)** for Scotland, accredited with 'A' status by the Global Alliance of NHRIs and is one of the three UK NHRIs. SHRC is a member of the UK's National Preventive Mechanism. It has a general duty to promote to promote awareness, understanding and respect for all human rights and to encourage best practice. It also has a number of powers including recommending such changes to Scottish law, policy and practice as it considers necessary.

SHRC is pleased to provide this submission to the Human Rights Council as part of the 4th cycle review of the United Kingdom. Issues concerning specific groups' rights are highlighted in '**bold'**. The report's scope and methodology are detailed in Annex 1. Annex 2 presents a Sustainable Development Goals review of themes. Annex 3 collates all recommendations. Annex 4 provides annotated references.

All recommendations are directed at the Scottish Government, unless otherwise specified.

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COVID-19

1. COVID-19 spotlighted¹ structural inequalities already facing many people in Scotland², with intersectionality magnifying these impacts³. As Scotland recovers, the <u>independent public inquiry</u>⁴ must allow learning and accountability regarding systemic issues and failures.

Recommendation:

- Take an HRBA to recovery and to the COVID Inquiry response.

Human Rights Framework

Ratifying international instrumentsⁱ/withdrawing reservationsⁱⁱ

2. The UK ratified the Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse in 2018^{iii 5}. No other progress has been made.

Application of international instruments in domestic law Incorporation

- 3. SHRC strongly opposes UK Government proposals⁶ to reduce existing human rights protections^{iv 7}, disregarding its own Independent Human Rights Act Review findings. Opposition is supported by the Scottish Parliament⁸, Scottish Government⁹, Civil Society¹⁰, and Westminster's Joint Committee on Human Rights¹¹.
- 4. Widespread cross-party¹² and civil society^v ¹³ support for stronger human rights laws and an HRBA^{vi} exists in Scotland. The Scottish Government has committed¹⁴ to new legislation incorporating a range of UN treaties into law^{vii}. Successful implementation requires dedicated resources^{viii}.
- 5. The Scottish Parliament unanimously passed^{ix} the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (Incorporation) (Scotland) Bill in 2021. The Bill now requires amendment, following a UK Government Supreme Court challenge¹⁵.

i Supported Recommendations 134.3-4/134.43-48; Noted Recommendations

 $^{134.1\}hbox{-}2/134.6\hbox{-}14/134.16\hbox{-}21/134.23\hbox{-}38/134.41\hbox{-}42/134.49\hbox{-}50.$

ii Supported Recommendation 134.4; Noted Recommendations 134.5, 134.15.

iii Noted Recommendations 134.42, 134.50

iv Noted Recommendations 134.66-134.77

^v Noted Recommendation 134.76

vi Supported Recommendation 134.57

vii Supported Recommendation 134.62; Noted Recommendations 134.56/134.58/134.61/134.64/134.88

viii Supported Recommendation 134.63

ix Noted Recommendations 134.59-60/134.65

Recommendations:

- Incorporate to the fullest extent permitted through devolution. Ensure adequate and effective remedies exist within the national legal system and resource capacity building.
- Amend required sections of the UNCRC Bill without delay.

UK Government:

- Retain the HRA 1998 and membership of the ECHR.
- Ratify and incorporate all human rights treaties without reservation, including individual communications procedures.

National laws, policies, strategies and Initiatives

NHRI^x

6. SHRC maintained its 'A' status accreditation in 2021¹⁶. SHRC's budget was deemed sufficient to meet its mandate¹⁷, however, further allocations were recommended for additional responsibilities¹⁸.

Civil Society^{xi}

7. Scottish civil society organisations play a crucial role in human rights promotion and realisation. However, resources are frequently short-term and insufficient to support a strong resilient sector¹⁹.

National Action Plans/ Strategies

- 8. Following the success of Scotland's first National Action Plan for Human Rights (SNAP)²⁰, preparations for SNAP2^{xii} are nearing completion²¹. A multi-stakeholder independent Leadership Panel will oversee SNAP2.
- 9. SHRC welcomed the following:
 - Race Equality Framework for Scotland 2016-2030^{xiii 22}
 Lack of data²³ limits accountability for Framework commitments²⁴.
 - Gypsy/Traveller Action Plan 2019-2021^{xiv 25}
 Requires an impact evaluation with meaningful participation from Gypsy/Travellers' Communities.
 - Scottish Strategy for Autism 2011-2021²⁶
 Little meaningful progress was made²⁷.
 - Mental Health Strategy 2017-2027²⁸
 Has been criticised for generally responding to crisis²⁹.

^{*} Supported Recommendation 134.55

xi Supported Recommendation 134.55

xii Noted Recommendation 134.79

xiii Supported Recommendations 134.87/134.92/134.95-6; Noted Recommendations 134.94

xiv Supported Recommendations 134.84/134.90/134.92; Noted Recommendations 134.89/134.91

- Draft Framework for Taxation³⁰ and National Strategy for

 Economic Transformation³¹

 Neither and acceptable Continued to be a selected at the continued to the cont
 - Neither engages with Scotland's human rights obligations³².
- New Scots Refugee Integration Strategy 2018-2022/ Ending Destitution Together Strategy (2021) xv 33
- Digital strategy: A Changing Nation 2021³⁴
- Housing to 2040³⁵

National Legislation

10. SHRC welcomed the introduction of legislation on: child poverty^{xvi36}; domestic abuse^{xvii}; gender representation on public boards³⁷; child protection^{xviii 38}; fuel poverty³⁹; free bus travel for under 22s⁴⁰; Biometrics Commissioner^{xix 41}; forensic medical services⁴²; redress for survivors of historical child abuse⁴³ and hate crime⁴⁴.

11. SHRC also welcomed:

- Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018^{xx 45},
 Whilst taking an HRBA, it failed to include a due regard duty.
- Age of Criminal Responsibility (Scotland) Act 2019^{xxi 46}
 This raised the age from 8 to 12 years old, two years below the minimum international standard of 14.
- Scottish Elections (Franchise and Representation) Act 2020^{xxii} ⁴⁷ extended voting rights to convicted **prisoners** serving sentences of 12 months or less⁴⁸ the bare minimum for compliance⁴⁹.

12. SHRC supports these proposals:

• Gender Recognition Reform (Scotland) Bill^{xxiii50} to improve and simplify the process for a **Trans person** to obtain legal

xv Supported Recommendations 134.121/134.214/134.216; Noted Recommendation 134.224

xvi Supported Recommendations 134.163-4, 134.168

xvii Supported Recommendation 134.92/134.180-1

xviii Noted Recommendations 134.193-134.199

xix Noted Recommendations 134.149-150

xx Supported Recommendation 134.163-4

xxi Noted Recommendations 134.205-8

xxii Noted Recommendation 134.161

xxiii Noted Recommendation 134.125

- recognition⁵¹.
- <u>Petition PE1817</u>⁵²: Prohibiting provision and promotion of all **LGBT+** 'conversion therapies'⁵³.
- <u>Disabled Children and Young People (Transitions to Adulthood)</u> (Scotland) Bill⁵⁴.
- Good Food Nation (Scotland) Bill⁵⁵, although limited in scope to progressively realise the right to food⁵⁶.

Human Rights Monitoring

13. There remains no comprehensive system for monitoring human rights progress in Scotland⁵⁷.

Data inadequacies

14. There are serious shortcomings in data availability⁵⁸, with acute gaps for some groups⁵⁹.

Recommendations:

- Ensure an adequately funded and independent civil society.
- Fully implement and resource SNAP2.
- Invest necessary resources in data to support government accountability.
- Address outstanding concerns in recent legislative efforts, national strategies and action plans.
- Create a system to monitor human rights progress in Scotland.

Scottish Parliament:

- Ensure SHRC has adequate funding to enable compliance with its functions in accordance with the Paris Principles.

Civil and Political Rights

Freedom From Violence

Hate Crimesxxiv

- 15. 5,525 hate crimes were reported to the Procurator Fiscal in 2020-21⁶⁰, with **racist hate crime** the most common (3,285 charges)⁶¹. The new Act⁶² should remedy current data gaps.
- 16. Research on Islamophobia noted many believed the media promoted Islamophobia⁶³. Social media has also increased public harassment faced by women⁶⁴, LGBT+⁶⁵, Scottish Gypsy/Travellers⁶⁶ and other minority ethnic⁶⁷ and religious communities⁶⁸.

Violence Against Women & Girlsxxv

- 17. 17% of **women** have experienced the use of force from a partner/ex⁶⁹. 80% of domestic abuse incidents in 2020-21 had a female victim/male perpetrator⁷⁰. **Disabled women** are twice as likely to experience men's violence than non-disabled⁷¹. Lockdown magnified the risks and impact of domestic abuse⁷².
- 18. One in 10 **women** in Scotland have experienced rape⁷³ and reported sexual crimes continue to rise against record low police recorded crime⁷⁴. Rape has the lowest conviction rate of any crime⁷⁵.

LGBT+ Gender Based Violence

19. One in four LGBT+ people, including up to 80% of Transgender people, experience domestic abuse⁷⁶. Fear of homophobia/biphobia/transphobia make LGBT+ young people less likely to seek help. Significant barriers exist to reporting abuse and accessing support⁷⁷.

xxiv Supported Recommendations 134.81/134.83-5/134.87/134.97-106/134.110-118/134.120-123; Noted Recommendations 134.82/134.107/134.109/134.119

xxv Supported Recommendations 134.81/134.83-5/134.87/; Noted Recommendations 134.82

Human Traffickingxxvi

- 20. 3% of potential **survivors of human trafficking** referred to the UK National Referral Mechanism were reported to Police Scotland in 2021⁷⁸. There were 14 prosecutions in Scotland for human trafficking offences between 2016-2020⁷⁹.
- 21. If the UK Government's passes its <u>Nationality and Borders Bill</u>⁸⁰, powers under the <u>Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Scotland)</u>
 <u>Act 2015</u>⁸¹ could be used to maximise protection for survivors⁸².

Restraint and Seclusion

22. An investigation⁸³ raised human rights concerns around restraint and seclusion in Scotland's schools. Judicial review proceedings followed in 2019⁸⁴. National guidance has not materialised.

Recommendations:

- Strengthen efforts to combat hate crimes and speech, including via the media.
- Strengthen efforts to combat violence against all women and LGBT+ people, including tackling low reporting, conviction rates and specialised assistance for survivors.
- Strengthen measures on human trafficking.
- Introduce national guidance on restraint, including a consistent approach to recording incidents.

Access to Justice

23. Scotland does not provide accessible, affordable, timely and effective routes to remedies⁸⁵. Existing remedies don't provide the full range of reparations under international law, particularly, rehabilitation/ guarantees of non-repetition⁸⁶.

xxvi Supported Recommendations 134.200/134.202/134.138-134.144/134.146-134.147 xxvii Supported Recommendation 134.154

24. A Legal Aid Reform Bill is promised^{xxvii 87}, but slow progress has been criticised⁸⁸.

Recommendations:

- Strengthen administrative and judicial routes to remedies ensuring they are accessible, affordable, timely and effective.
- Ensure appropriate reparations for human rights violations, including non-repetition guarantees.

xxvii Supported Recommendation 134.154

Policing*xviii

- 25. SHRC welcomed substantial recommended reforms (accepted by government) from an <u>Independent Review of Complaints</u>

 <u>Handling, Investigations and Misconduct Issues in Relation to</u>

 <u>Policing</u>. Police Scotland also accepted recommendations for improvement to call-handling⁸⁹.
- 26. Police Scotland responded well to challenges of COVID-19 and the enforcement of public health regulations, making effective use of the Independent Advisory Group⁹⁰.

Detentionxxix

- 27. The prison population on remand⁹¹ (23% of men, 26% of **women**: 43% of **16-20 year olds**) in Scotland has increased significantly⁹².
- 28. Many concerns raised by the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture (CPT) haven't been addressed fully by the Scottish Government⁹³.
- 29. Concerns remain regarding a wide range of detention conditions⁹⁴.
- 30. An <u>Independent Review</u> (2021) co-chaired by SHRC⁹⁵ into the handling of deaths in prison custody, delivered 27 recommendations, including that an independent body carry out an investigation into every death in custody. SHRC believes this should be equally applied to deaths in mental health detention⁹⁶.
- 31. Dungavel Immigration Removal Centre remains open⁹⁷. SHRC remains concerned about the excessive length of immigration detention^{xxx}.

Recommendations:

- Address recommendations relating to policing without delay.

xxviii Supported Recommendation 134.134 xxix Supported Recommendations 134.137/134.158-134.60/134.62 xxx Noted Recommendation 134.215/134.217-219 - Take urgent action on:

High numbers of people on remand;

Outstanding CPT recommendations;

Significant concerns about detention conditions;

Death in custody recommendations;

UK Government:

- Set a statutory time limit for judicial oversight of immigration detention.

Technology

32. There is a lack of legislation regulating the design, development and application of digital technologies, necessary to ensure public bodies (including Police Scotland) and businesses^{xxxi} ⁹⁸ meet human rights obligations. SHRC welcomes the creation of the Biometrics Commissioner⁹⁹, despite a limited mandate. SHRC obtained agreement for an HRBA on the Scottish Government's digital strategy¹⁰⁰.

Recommendation:

- Introduce legislation regulating the design, development and application of digital technologies, ensuring human rights compliance.

Participation rights

33. Awareness is growing across government of the importance of engaging and consulting¹⁰¹. Whilst good practice examples exist¹⁰², there's also evidence of limited engagement/impact, consultation fatigue and insufficient time/resources for meaningful consultation¹⁰³.

Recommendation:

- Set out how 'meaningful' participation good practice is resourced and normalised across the public sector.

Economic and Social Rights

Adequate standard of livingxxxii

- 34. COVID-19 has compounded austerity measures¹⁰⁴ already disproportionately impacting many groups¹⁰⁵.
- 35. In Scotland, 26% of **children** officially live in poverty¹⁰⁶; 68% in working households¹⁰⁷. 60% of **adults living in poverty** also live in working households¹⁰⁸. Food¹⁰⁹ and fuel¹¹⁰ poverty persist. Despite mitigation¹¹¹ and action¹¹², the Scottish Government is not on track to meet Scotland's child poverty targets^{xxxiii} ¹¹³.
- 36. 1.5 million people in Scotland struggle with the cost of keeping a home 114.
- 37. There are 61,000 properties awaiting adaption, with 10,000 people on the waiting list for adapted houses. Only 1% of housing is wheelchair accessible 115.
- 38. Scottish research¹¹⁶ highlights a household is made homeless every 19 minutes, many being **families with children**¹¹⁷. Others at high risk include **LGBT+ young people**¹¹⁸, **transgender people**¹¹⁹, **young people under 25**¹²⁰, **survivors of domestic abuse**¹²¹ and people with No Recourse to Public Funds¹²².
- 39. Funding has been allocated to increase culturally appropriate accommodation for **Gypsy/Traveller communities**¹²³.

Recommendations:

- Strengthen efforts to reduce all aspects of poverty.
- Set out how funding allocations will differ between Child Poverty Delivery plans 1 and 2 to meet targets.
- Prioritise delivery of affordable, accessible and culturally appropriate social housing/ accommodation.

xxxii Supported Recommendations 134.81/134.163-164/134.66/134.168; Noted Recommendations 134.192 xxxiii Supported Recommendations 134.191; Noted Recommendations 134.192

Education xxxiv

- 40. **Scottish Gypsy/Traveller children and young people** have the lowest attendance and highest exclusion record of any ethnic group. Transition to senior school is also low¹²⁴.
- 41. The attainment gap¹²⁵ between **children and young people** from the most/least deprived areas, and those with **Additional Support Needs (ASN)/non ASN** persists¹²⁶.
- 42. Since 2012, there's been a 24.6% cut¹²⁷ in resources for **pupils** with ASN and a 16.3% decrease (an all-time low) in ASN staff, whilst numbers of pupils has escalated dramatically¹²⁸.
- 43. Research shows **LGBT+**¹²⁹, **sexist and racist** bullying and **misogynistic** behaviours are prevalent in education settings across Scotland¹³⁰, as is **Islamophobia**¹³¹. During lockdown, 47% of **children and young people** in Scotland reported seeing/experiencing online bullying¹³².
- 44. Since the end of 2021, Scottish schools must embed **LGBT**-inclusive teaching across the curriculum¹³³. Work is underway to replicate this in relation to **race**¹³⁴.

Recommendations:

- Address persistent inequalities in attendance, exclusions, and attainment.
- Increase funding for Additional Support Needs.
- Intensify efforts to tackle bullying and violence in schools and online bullying.

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xxxiv Supported Recommendation 134.81

Right to work and fair conditions of work*xxv

- 45. Many groups continue to face particular difficulties accessing work and fair conditions¹³⁵.
- 46. Undervaluation is a key driver of the **gender** pay gap¹³⁶. Pay gaps based on **gender**¹³⁷, **race**¹³⁸ and **disability**¹³⁹ persist, with concern over accuracy of reporting and enforcement. **Disability** and **race** pay gaps don't currently have the same level of political or policy commitment¹⁴⁰.
- 47. **Women** are four times more likely than men to give up paid work for unpaid care work¹⁴¹. 45% of **unpaid carers** live in the most deprived areas, performing 35 hours or more¹⁴².
- 48. Childcare provision has improved¹⁴³, however, gaps remain for **older children**, **children with disabilities** and where parents work atypical hours. **Low-paid** childcare workers are often parents living in poverty¹⁴⁴.

Recommendations:

- Strengthen gender pay gap reporting by revising Scottish Specific Duties Regulations 2012¹⁴⁵.
- Extend pay gap reporting to other protected characteristics.
- Address outstanding childcare gaps.
- -Increase social security provisions for unpaid carers.

xxxv Supported Recommendations: 134.81/134.175-134.179/134.209

Health

Access to Healthcarexxxvi

- 49. The dual impact of Brexit¹⁴⁶ and Covid-19 worsened prepandemic staff shortages¹⁴⁷.
- 50. **LGBT+ people** often struggle to access healthcare services¹⁴⁸, particularly **Transgender people**. Reproductive and maternity rights of **disabled women** in Scotland are not realised¹⁴⁹.
- 51. Pre-pandemic concern was raised about medical professionals inappropriately applying 'Do Not Resuscitate' to **disabled**people¹⁵⁰. Concern increased during the pandemic¹⁵¹.

Health inequalities xxxviii

- 52. Scotland's progress in life expectancy and health improvements has stalled and was never experienced universally. The biggest risk factor across health issues, including death, is **deprivation**¹⁵².
- 53. Data also reveals **people with learning disabilities**¹⁵³, **Scottish Gypsy/Travellers** and **prisoners** experience significantly worse health outcomes and excess mortality¹⁵⁴. **Women** face particular health inequalities and disadvantages¹⁵⁵.
- 54. Scotland's drug deaths have increased every year since records began in 1996. The age standardised rate of 25.2 per 100,000 in 2020¹⁵⁶ was more than 3.5 times the UK rate and higher than any European country¹⁵⁷.

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xxxvi Supported Recommendation 134.166; Noted Recommendation 134.171

xxxvii Supported Recommendation 134.81

Mental Health

- 55. A range of concerns exist/persist in relation to mental health care, treatment and outcomes, including:
 - Continued failure to meet treatment targets for **children and** young people (33%)¹⁵⁸ and adults (13%)¹⁵⁹.
 - High rejection (25%) of **children and young people's** referrals¹⁶⁰.
 - Higher prevalence of mental health issues amongst women¹⁶¹, children and young people¹⁶² and those living in deprived areas¹⁶³, including the much higher suicide rate in those areas¹⁶⁴.
 - COVID-19 negatively impacted on the mental health of many groups of **children and young people**¹⁶⁵ and **older people**¹⁶⁶.
- 56. SHRC welcomed the review of mental health legislation¹⁶⁷ and final report from the Independent Forensic Mental Health Review¹⁶⁸.

Recommendations:

- Address staff shortages and inequalities in access to healthcare experienced by different groups.
- Investigate inappropriate use of Do Not Resuscitate.
- Address social determinants of persistent inequalities in physical and mental health outcomes.
- Address persistent failure to meet psychological therapies access targets and provide data to understand the rate of rejected referrals.
- Address recommendations from the Scottish Mental Health Law Review and the Independent Forensic Mental Health Review.

Social Care

- 57. Many residents and staff in care homes were affected by COVID-19, including deaths¹⁶⁹. Questions remain over whether the approach in care homes was sufficient and appropriate¹⁷⁰.
- 58. Concern persists over the funding-implementation gap for Self-Directed Support¹⁷¹. There were reports of reduction and/or removal of care packages during the pandemic¹⁷² resulting in people being left without essential care¹⁷³.
- 59. There are plans for a new National Care Service, however concerns exist over resourcing¹⁷⁴. SHRC considers that for effectiveness it must embed human rights in practice¹⁷⁵.
- 60. Concern has been raised about out-of-area placements and delayed discharge to community-based services for people with a **learning disability** or **autism**¹⁷⁶, due to lack of funding and/or suitable accommodation or care providers¹⁷⁷. The Scottish Government recently published <u>this response</u>¹⁷⁸.

Recommendations:

- -Ensure lessons are learned regarding failures in care provision during the pandemic.
- Adequately fund Self-Directed Support and ensure care packages removed during the pandemic are reinstated.
- Ensure the planned National Care Service is adequately funded and embeds human rights at its core.
- Ensure people with learning disabilities or autism can live independently with dignity.

Environmental Rights and Climate Justicexxxviii

- 61. Many, including SHRC, welcome the Scottish Government's commitment to include the Right to a Healthy Environment within Scotland's forthcoming human rights legislation¹⁷⁹. However, Scotland's legal system remains noncompliant with the Aarhus Convention due to excessive costs of legal action¹⁸⁰.
- 62. Scotland's emissions during 2019 were down by 51.5% since the 1990 baseline, falling short of the annual target of a 55% reduction¹⁸¹.
- 63. Scotland's biodiversity is now more depleted than in 88% of 240 other countries and territories¹⁸². Climate change risks have increased¹⁸³ and adaption efforts stalled¹⁸⁴.

Recommendations:

- Address Scotland's noncompliance with the Aarhus Convention.
- Ensure Scotland's emissions targets are met and set out how Scotland will address biodiversity depletion.
- Intensify efforts to mitigate impacts of climate change.

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xxxviii Noted Recommendations 134.126-127/134.189

References

¹ See:

• https://www.scottishhumanrights.com/covid-19/

² See:

- https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/research-and-analysis/2020/09/the-impacts-of-covid-19-on-equality-in-scotland/documents/full-report/govscot%3Adocument/Covid%2Band%2BInequalities%2BFinal%2BReport%2BFor%2BPublication%2B-%2BPDF.pdf
- https://nationalperformance.gov.scot/scotlands-wellbeing-impact-covid-19-chapter-4-communities-poverty-human-rights
- https://www.resolutionfoundation.org/publications/the-economic-effects-of-coronavirus-in-the-uk/
- https://fraserofallander.org/what-does-todays-labour-market-and-universal-credit-data-tell-us-about-the-impact-of-covid-19-on-scotland/;
- https://fraserofallander.org/emerging-indicators-of-impacts-of-covid-19-on-the-economy-and-households-in-scotland/;
- https://fraserofallander.org/the-economy-remains-on-life-support-but-its-pulse-is-still-beating-latest-real-time-indicators-of-the-scottish-economy/;
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- https://fraserofallander.org/what-do-the-latest-indicators-tell-us-about-the-impact-of-the-coronavirus-on-the-scottish-economy/
- https://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/114973.aspx
- https://www.resolutionfoundation.org/publications/growing-pains-the-impact-of-leaving-education-during-a-recession-on-earnings-and-employment/

³ See:

• https://data.gov.scot/coronavirus-covid-19/equality.html

⁴ See:

- https://www.gov.scot/groups/scottish-covid-19-inquiry/
- https://www.gov.uk/government/news/covid-19-inquiry-terms-of-reference

⁵ See:

• https://www.coe.int/en/web/portal/-/the-uk-ratifies-the-lanzarote-convention-to-protect-children-against-sexual-violence

⁶ See:

• https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/human-rights-act-reform-a-modern-bill-of-rights

⁷ See:

- https://www.scottishhumanrights.com/news/commission-details-concerns-about-uk-government-proposals-to-replace-the-human-rights-act/
- See https://www.scottishhumanrights.com/projects-and-programmes/defending-the-human-rights-act/

⁸ See:

- http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=10722&i=98397
- http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=9616&i=87353

⁹ See:

- https://www.gov.scot/publications/human-rights-act-letter-to-the-lord-chancellor/
- https://www.gov.scot/publications/human-rights-act-reform-consultation-scottish-government-response/

¹⁰ See:

• https://hrcscotland.org/2022/03/11/46-organisations-join-consortium-to-say-no-to-human-rights-act-reform/

11 See:

https://www.scottishhumanrights.com/news/no-case-for-amending-the-human-rights-act-commission-welcomes-joint-committee-on-human-rights-report/

12 See:

- http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=10722&i=98397
- http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=9616&i=87353

13 See:

- https://humanrightsdeclaration.scot/
- https://hrcscotland.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Final-Exec-Summary-Capacity-Reiew-of-Scot-Civil-Society-on-Human-Rights-Jan-2022.pdf

14 See:

- https://humanrightsleadership.scot/
- https://www.gov.scot/groups/national-taskforce-for-human-rights-leadership/
- https://www.gov.scot/news/new-human-rights-bill/
- https://www.gov.scot/publications/fairer-greener-scotland-programme-government-2021-22/

15 See:

- https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/committees/current-and-previouscommittees/session-6-education-children-and-young-peoplecommittee/correspondence/2021/scottish-governments-response-to-uk-supreme-courts-judgment-on-un-convention-rights-of-the-child
- https://togetherscotland.blog/2021/10/06/supreme-court-judgment-heres-what-you-need-to-know/
- ¹⁶ This is in accordance with the UN Paris Principles See:
 - https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/NHRI/GANHRI/EN-SCA-Report-June-2021.pdf
- ¹⁷ Ibid.
- ¹⁸ Ibid.
- 19 See:
 - https://hrcscotland.org/2022/01/27/increasing-number-of-scottish-civil-society-organisations-engaging-with-human-rights-read-new-report/
- ²⁰ For an independent evaluation of SNAP, see:
 - http://www.snaprights.info/evaluation

For further information on SNAP, see:

- https://www.scottishhumanrights.com/projects-and-programmes/scotlands-national-action-plan/
- http://www.snaprights.info/
- ²¹ See:
 - http://www.snaprights.info/national-participation-process
- ²² See:
 - See https://www.gov.scot/publications/race-equality-framework-scotland-2016-2030/
- ²³ See paragraph 14 on Data inadequacies for further details.
- ²⁴ See:
 - https://nen.press/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/ethnicity poverty and the data in scotland.pdf
 - https://sp-bpr-en-prod-cdnep.azureedge.net/published/EHRiC/2020/11/15/Race-Equality--Employment-and-Skills--Making-Progress-/EHRiCS052020R3.pdf
- ²⁵ See:
 - https://www.gov.scot/publications/improving-lives-scotlands-gypsy-travellers-2019-2021/
- ²⁶ See:
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