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26 November 2026

Dear Convener,

Scottish Biometrics Commissioner: Report on the Commissioner's functions

I am writing to let you know that the Scottish Government has today laid a report at the Scottish Parliament on the Scottish Biometrics Commissioner's functions as required under section 6(1)(b) of the Scottish Biometrics Commissioner Act 2020 (the 2020 Act).

The report presents the conclusions and recommendations of the Scottish Ministers following a review of the Commissioner's functions. The review assessed whether the Commissioner's functions under the 2020 Act remain appropriate and whether the specified bodies subject to the Commissioner's oversight under the 2020 Act should be amended.

The review concludes that the Commissioner's existing functions remain appropriate and that the current framework established by the 2020 Act is operating largely as intended. However, it identified evidence supporting further consideration of extending independent biometrics oversight in specific areas of the policing and the criminal justice system in Scotland.

The report will be published on the Scottish Government website from 9 am on Friday 27 November 2026. The report can be accessed at: https://www.gov.scot/isbn/9781807758134.

I have copied this letter for information to the Presiding Officer on behalf of the Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body.

Yours sincerely,

NEIL GRAY

Scottish Ministers, special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot

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