Justice Committee

Post-legislative scrutiny of the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012

Supplementary written submission from the Scottish Government

Cabinet Secretary for Justice meeting with Kate Frame, Police Investigation and Review Commissioner on 13 November 2018

- General introductions with discussion on background and history of PIRC and how the organisation has developed over the years with increase in demand
- Discussion around inter relationships PIRC has with other organisations
- Dialogue around discretion across organisations including police bodies and their roles and responsibilities when to report/refer to PIRC.
- Conversation around evidence provided at Justice Committee around complaints/investigations and the further written submissions provided by both PIRC and Police Scotland. Cabinet Secretary was mindful that some of the issues raised were likely to be picked up as part of Dame Elish Angiolini’s independent review. However he was open to hear any suggestions that might help/improve complaints process in the short term.
- Cabinet Secretary indicated that a flow chart around discretion and decision making would be helpful and would ask officials to consider this.
- Dialogue on PIRC’s structure and finance. Cabinet Secretary acknowledged that PIRC’s work is demand and cases can vary in complexity.
- Conversation around PIRC’s independence, transparency and decision making.