



NEWS RELEASE

PUBLICATION OF THE 2016-17 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SCOTTISH CRIMINAL CASES REVIEW COMMISSION

The Scottish Criminal Cases Review Commission today announced the publication of its 18th annual report, covering the period from 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017.

The Commission was established in April 1999 to review alleged miscarriages of justice in Scottish criminal convictions and sentences independently of Government and the Crown.

The report sets out the Commission's main functions and performance over the reporting year. Additional information is provided on case statistics and the decision making process, as well as future plans. Financial performance for the year is detailed separately in the 2016-17 Annual Accounts which were published alongside the Annual Report.

The Commission's Chief Executive, Mr Gerard Sinclair, said today:

"I am delighted to present today the publication of the Commission's 2016-17 Annual Report, which sets out details of our performance over the year along with some valuable information relating to the work that we have done and the cases that we have referred to the High Court.

I am pleased to announce once again that the Commission has managed to achieve all of its case related targets for the year, which is particularly noteworthy given the continued high case volumes and ongoing pressures on resources. This is a testament both to the continued hard work of the Commission's staff and Board Members, as well as the tremendous support we receive from our various stakeholders within the criminal justice community."

The report is available via the Commission's website www.sccrc.org.uk or by request from the Commission at 5th floor Portland House, 17 Renfield Street, Glasgow, Tel: 0141 270 7030, Fax: 0141 270 7040. E-mail: info@sccrc.org.uk

Notes for Editors

The Scottish Criminal Cases Review Commission was established as an independent body on 1 April 1999 to review alleged miscarriages of justice in Scottish convictions and/or sentences. Under section 194 A to L of the Criminal Procedure (Scotland) Act 1995 (as inserted by section 25 of the Crime and Punishment (Scotland) Act 1997) the Commission can refer a case to the High Court if it believes that a miscarriage of justice may have

occurred and that it is in the interests of justice that a reference should be made. Once a case is referred to the High Court by the Commission, it will proceed as a normal appeal.

The Commission operates with a Board of 8 Members, one of whom is the Chairperson, a Chief Executive, a Director of Corporate Services, a Head of Casework, 2 Senior Legal Officers, 6 Legal Officers and administrative support staff.

In terms of its disclosure policy, the Commission will disclose the fact that a case has been referred. However, as it operated under strict statutory non-disclosure provisions, the Commission will not disclose any further information about such cases.

For any further general information about the Commission please contact Mr Chris Reddick, Director of Corporate Services, SCCRC, 5th Floor, Portland House, 17 Renfield Street, Glasgow, Tel: 0141 270 7030, e-mail: creddick@sccrc.org.uk or visit the Commission's website at www.sccrc.org.uk