



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

## Criminal Justice Committee

**Jo Farrell**  
**Chief Constable**  
**Police Scotland**

Via email only

**28 May 2025**

Dear Chief Constable

### **Priorities for the Scottish Criminal Justice System in the forthcoming review of the Trade and Cooperation Agreement between the United Kingdom and the European Union**

I am writing to you in the wake of [research work](#) which has been undertaken for the Criminal Justice Committee by members of the Scottish Parliament Academic Fellowship. The purpose of this work by the Committee is to inform parliamentary scrutiny and ensure that key Scottish and UK stakeholders work to deliver on the specific needs of the Scottish criminal justice system in the forthcoming review of the Trade and Cooperation Agreement (TCA) between the United Kingdom and the European Union in 2026.

Between March 2023 and January 2024 Gemma Davies, Associate Professor of Criminal Law at Durham University, and Helena Farrand Carrapico, Professor of International Relations and European Politics at Northumbria University, undertook research on behalf of the Committee. The aim of this research has been to [assess the actual impact](#) of the UK's withdrawal from the European Union on Scotland's criminal justice system. The Committee took written and [oral evidence](#) from Professors Davies and Farrand Carrapico on 30 April 2025.

This work is intended provide Members of the Scottish Parliament and key stakeholders in Scotland and in the UK Government, with a roadmap of the implications of the signing of the TCA on Scotland's criminal justice system to date.

The research emphasises the need for training across all of Police Scotland, so officers know when and how to use the available tools to obtain assistance from law enforcement overseas and how to best utilise Joint Investigation Teams.

What steps is Police Scotland undertaking to ensure all officers are aware of this? Are all police officers aware they have the power to arrest an individual based on an Interpol Red Notice?

The Committee is seeking a written response to these questions by **Friday 27 June 2025**.

The Committee has also written in similar terms to the Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs, and the Lord Advocate on issues such as adequate post-Brexit funding and resources for Police Scotland, or issues around the reported backlog of extradition cases in Edinburgh Sheriff Court.

We have also written to the UK Home Secretary, the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, and the chairs of the House of Commons Home Affairs Committee and Justice Committee, and the House of Lords European Affairs Committee.

All of these letters are available on the Committee website.<sup>1</sup> Any responses received will also be published in due course.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Audrey Nicoll" with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Audrey Nicoll MSP**  
**Convener**

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<sup>1</sup> Correspondence is available on the Committee's Inquiry webpage: <https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/committees/current-and-previous-committees/session-6-criminal-justice-committee/business-items/research-on-impact-of-brexit-on-law-enforcement>