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**SCOTTISH POLICE
AUTHORITY**

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LETTER SENT BY E-MAIL ONLY

Ms Jenny Marra MSP
Convener
Public Audit and Post-Legislative Scrutiny Committee
The Scottish Parliament
EDINBURGH
EH99 1SP

4 March 2021

CE/034/2021

Dear Convener

SCOTTISH POLICE AUTHORITY S.22 EVIDENCE 11 FEBRUARY 2021

I refer to the Scottish Police Authority's evidence provided to the Public Audit and Post-Legislative Scrutiny Committee on 11 February 2021.

Committee members sought information from the Authority's former Interim Chair, David Crichton in relation to Police Scotland's investigative work as a result of referrals from the Crown Office, and, the costs relating to investigations into the former first minister, Alex Salmond and Rangers Football Club.

In relation to the cost of the two investigations referred to, the Authority has not received any detailed financial information in respect of either of these investigations. Concerns regarding the costs of investigations have been raised by Authority members and the Chief Constable has given a public commitment to highlight any such cases whereby investigation costs pose a significant opportunity cost to policing in Scotland.

Notwithstanding this, I understand Police Scotland has been asked and can provide the committee with a breakdown of the costs associated with the investigation into Rangers Football Club.

In respect of referrals from the Crown Office - as acknowledged at the session, there is a legal obligation on Police Scotland to act on all such referrals. The Authority has requested and is awaiting a briefing from Police Scotland in relation

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to this and any available information on volume of activity. I will write further in this regard in as soon as we have any additional information to provide.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lynn Brown." The signature is written in a cursive style with a period at the end.

LYNN BROWN OBE
Interim Chief Executive

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