

# **VICTIMS AND WITNESSES (SCOTLAND) ACT 2014**

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## **EXPLANATORY NOTES**

### **COMMENTARY ON SECTIONS**

#### ***National Confidential Forum***

##### ***Section 30***

#### **Carrying out NCF functions**

90. **Section 30** inserts section 4ZC into the Mental Health Act to require, in section 4ZC(1), the Commission to delegate the functions, set out above, to the Forum. This requires the NCF functions to be delegated to a distinct entity within the Commission, enabling a significant degree of operational independence for the Forum within the accountability structure of the Commission.
91. Section 4ZC(2) provides that the person appointed to chair the Forum (the “NCF Head”) is to account to the Commission for the work of the Forum in discharging its functions effectively.
92. Section 4ZC(3) makes explicit that, despite the delegation of functions and the accountability of the Head of NCF, the Commission will retain responsibility for ensuring that the Forum carries out its functions.