

EXPLANATORY NOTES

SCOTTISH PARLIAMENTARY STANDARDS COMMISSIONER ACT 2002

INTRODUCTION

SUMMARY OF AND BACKGROUND TO THE BILL

COMMENTARY ON SECTIONS

Section 1 – Appointment of the Scottish Parliamentary Standards Commissioner

Section 2 – Appointment of the acting Commissioner

Section 3 – Functions of the Commissioner

Section 4 – Directions to the Commissioner

Section 5 – General provisions relating to an investigation into a complaint

Section 6 – Stage 1: Admissibility of complaints

Section 7 – Procedures at Stage 1

Section 8 – Stage 2: Investigation of an admissible complaint

Section 9 – Report

Section 10 – Action on receipt of a report

Section 11 – Withdrawal of a complaint

Section 12 – Investigation into excluded complaints

Section 13 – Power to call for witnesses and documents

Section 14 – Witnesses and documents: notice

Section 15 – Witnesses and documents: offences

Section 16 – Restriction upon disclosure of information

Section 17 – Protection from actions of defamation

Section 18 – Annual report

Section 19 – Transitional provision

These notes relate to the Scottish Parliamentary Standards Commissioner Act 2002 (asp 16)

Section 20 – Interpretation

Section 21– Short title and commencement

Schedule –The Scottish Parliamentary Standards Commissioner

**PARLIAMENTARY HISTORY OF SCOTTISH PARLIAMENTARY STANDARDS
COMMISSIONER ACT 2002**