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Mr Jamie Jones

Our ref: 2018/0038971  
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Dear Mr Jones

Thank you for your email of 4 November 2018, regarding the status of common law in Scotland.

Common law is an important concept in the Scottish legal system. In terms of the criminal law there is a mix of common law offences (i.e. those established by judicial precedent) and statutory offences (i.e. those created by Act of Parliament). The police are empowered to investigate all offences, whether common law or statutory law.

In terms of the powers of the police, there is similarly a mix of powers established under common law and powers established specifically by statute.

I hope this information is helpful

Kind regards

Abbie Eddington  
Deputy Business Manager

