

9 December 2014



Your ref:
Our ref: L/2/10/1C

Dear Consultee

**JOINT CONSULTATION PAPER ON ELECTORAL LAW:
LCCP No 218; SLCDP No 158; NILC 20 (2014)**

We invite comment on the above mentioned joint Consultation Paper which has been published today. A News Release is also available.

Currently, with the Law Commission for England and Wales and the Northern Ireland Law Commission, we are examining electoral law. Electoral law in the UK has grown to be complex, voluminous and fragmented. Recent years have seen a steady increase in the numbers and types of election. One issue arising from this is that each type of election brings its own set of rules and systems, and combining different types of election into one electoral event introduces yet more layers of electoral law. The overall aim of the project is to ensure that the law governing elections is modern, fit for purpose, and meets the expectations of voters.

Consultation is critical in all our law reform projects to ensure that the recommendations contained in our final report would, if implemented, result in law which is just, principled, responsive and easy to understand. We therefore invite your views on any or all of the proposals in this joint Consultation Paper. Even if you agree with our proposals but do not wish to make any further comments, a brief note to that effect would be most helpful as an indication that our proposals are on the right lines. Please note that the consultation process for this project will conclude on **31 March 2015**; accordingly, we would be grateful if comments were submitted by then.

As the Law Commission for England and Wales is leading this project, please send your comments to that Commission at the address shown at the front of the paper. It would be helpful if, where possible, comments were sent electronically.

We may publish or disclose information you provide us in response to this consultation, including personal information. For example, we may publish an extract of your response in Law Commission publications, or publish the response in its entirety. We may also be required to disclose the information, such as in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.

If you want information that you provide to be treated as confidential please contact us first, but we cannot give an assurance that confidentiality can be maintained in all circumstances. An automatic disclaimer generated by your IT system will not be regarded as binding on the Law Commissions.



The Law Commissions will process your personal data in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998.

Finally, should you wish to offer any comments on the way in which we conduct our consultation exercises, we would be pleased to hear from you.

Yours faithfully

MALCOLM McMILLAN

Chief Executive