



T: 0300 244 4000
E: scottish.ministers@gov.scot

Lady Ann Paton
Chair, Scottish Law Commission
Parliament House,
11 Parliament Square
Edinburgh EH1 1RQ

By email: Ann.Paton@scotlawcom.gov.uk

5 September 2023

Dear Lady Paton

Scottish Law Commission Reports

As you will be aware, today the Scottish Government published its annual Programme for Government. I wanted to take this opportunity to thank the Commission for its continued work to improve, simplify and update the law of Scotland.

Since 2013, when new rules on how the Scottish Parliament considers Scottish Law Commission (SLC) Bills were agreed, seven such Bills have been introduced. This averages almost one SLC Bill per annual legislative programme in what has been a busy legislative calendar. Already this Parliamentary session the Scottish Government has introduced two SLC Bills, one on moveable transactions and the other on trusts and succession.

This year's Programme for Government includes our commitment to introduce another SLC Bill, this time implementing the SLC's recommendations made in its Report on Judicial Factors (2013). This will be the third SLC Bill introduced this session.

In line with our wider ambition of giving consideration to implementing a number of SLC reports this Parliamentary session, I am pleased to inform you that, after initial consideration, my officials will begin detailed work on three further SLC reports. These are the Report on An Improved Scheme for Financial Provision on Cohabitation Breakdown (2022), the Report on Aspects of Leases: Termination (2022) and the Report on Review of Contract Law (2018).

The timing and content of each legislative programme is, of course, a matter for Cabinet to decide as part of the development of the annual Programme for Government. I will continue to consider whether and when there would be a suitable opportunity to take forward the recommendations contained in those three reports as other commitments allow.

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Tha Ministearanna h-Alba, an luchd-comhairleachaidh sònraichte agus Rùnaire Maireannach fo chumhachan Achd Coiteachaidh (Alba) 2016. Faicibh www.lobbying.scot



I have taken the opportunity to send a copy of this letter to Stuart McMillan, Convener of the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, and Kaukab Stewart, Convener of the Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee, both of whom have an interest in implementation of the SLC's recommendations.



SIOBHIAN BROWN

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