



Scottish Law Commission

promoting law reform

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ISSUED ON BEHALF OF THE SCOTTISH LAW COMMISSION

NOT FOR PUBLICATION OR BROADCAST

BEFORE 0001 HOURS 18 February 2010

SCOTTISH LAW COMMISSION PUBLISHES ITS LATEST ANNUAL REPORT

In its Annual Report 2009, published today, the Scottish Law Commission reports on progress with its law reform projects over the last year and gives details of the discussion papers and reports it expects to publish during 2010

In the Foreword, the Chairman of the Commission, Lord Drummond Young welcomes the excellent progress made by the Scottish Government and the Scottish Parliament in response to his concerns about the number of Commission Reports that remain unimplemented, and he looks forward to seeing practical results from the changes. He expresses disappointment about the lack of progress made at the United Kingdom level with implementing Commission recommendations. He voices concern that the Commission's recommendations for reform of the law of partnership have not been implemented despite being widely accepted in Scotland as necessary. He concludes that if the devolution settlement is to work properly, it is vital that UK Government Departments should take their responsibilities to Scotland seriously.

Publications in 2009

The Annual Report gives details of the Discussion Papers and Reports that the Commission published during 2009, and those published jointly with the Law Commission for England and Wales, including a Report on Consumer Remedies for Faulty Goods.

The Commission's new Programme of Law Reform

The Commission's Seventh Programme of Law Reform ended in December 2009. While many of the projects under the Programme have been completed, some are being carried forward into the Commission's Eighth Programme of Law Reform, which will guide its main work from 2010 to 2014.

References from Ministers

In addition to law reform projects under its Programme, the Commission undertakes projects to review specific areas of law as requested by the Scottish Ministers or on occasions, UK Departments. The Annual Report outlines the progress during 2009 with these projects, including the publication in December of the Report on Double Jeopardy.

Publications planned for 2010

During 2010 the Commission plans to publish discussion papers on -

- judicial factors
- similar fact evidence and the *Moorov* doctrine

and reports on –

- land registration

In addition the Commission plans to publish a joint consultation paper with the Law Commission on level crossings.

NOTES TO EDITORS

1. The Scottish Law Commission was set up in 1965 to promote the reform of the law of Scotland. The Chairman is the Hon Lord Drummond Young, a Court of Session judge. The other Commissioners are Laura J Dunlop QC, Professor George L Gretton, Patrick Layden QC TD, and Professor Hector L MacQueen. The Chief Executive is Malcolm McMillan.

2. Further information can be obtained by contacting Malcolm McMillan, Scottish Law Commission, 140 Causewayside, Edinburgh EH9 1PR (Tel: 0131 668 2131, Fax: 0131 662 4900, email: info@scotlawcom.gov.uk).

3. The paper may also be viewed on our website at www.scotlawcom.gov.uk or purchased from TSO (www.tsoshop.co.uk).