

Spring 2014

e-bulletin

Keeping you up to date with Scottish Law Commission news and consultations

Our current work

At the Scottish Law Commission we are in the last phase of our current programme of work, our Eighth Programme of Law Reform. The Eighth Programme finishes at the end of 2014. We will have completed many of the projects in this Programme by then; and certain longer-term projects will be carried forward into our next Programme. Our current law reform projects, including our joint law reform projects with the Law Commission for England and Wales and the Northern Ireland Law Commission, are set out below. For further information on any particular project, click on the link which takes you to the project page on our website

Scottish Commission only projects

Current projects

- Adults with incapacity
- Compulsory purchase
- Contract law in light of the Draft Common Frame of Reference (DCFR)
- Moveable transactions (security over corporeal and incorporeal moveable property; assignation of incorporeal moveable property)
- Trusts



News

Reforming the law: Any ideas?

The Scottish Law Commission have launched a public consultation on the law reform work that we should carry out in the future.

The Commission are seeking views on which areas of Scots law are most in need of reform. Reform may be needed because the law is causing difficulties in practice, for example where the law is unfair, unclear, unduly complex or out of date.

The Commission carry out work under programmes of law reform, approved by Scottish Ministers. The next Programme of Law Reform, the Ninth Programme, will start in 2015.

Views are sought by 12 September.

Further information is available on the Commission's <u>website</u>.

Joint projects with the Law Commission for England and Wales (*and with the Northern Ireland Law Commission):

Current joint projects

- Electoral law *
- Insurance law
- Statute law repeals

Recently completed joint projects

- Regulation of health care professionals*
- Consolidation of statutes

Further information

Further information about the Commission, Commissioners and staff, and our law reform work can be found on our website at

http://www.scotlawcom.gov.uk/.

The website has full text versions of all of our reports and discussion papers.

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Deal-making ground-breaking Bill

First law reform Bill for new process in Scottish Parliament

The Scottish Parliament have chosen the first law reform Bill to go through a new Parliamentary process designed to implement Scottish Law Commission reports.

The Legal Writings (Counterparts and Delivery) (Scotland) Bill has been referred to the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, as the lead Committee.

The Scottish Parliament gave this new role to the Committee in May 2013, putting in place a process to recognise the valuable role of the Commission in recommending reforms to improve, simplify and update the law of Scotland.

The Bill will make two significant improvements to Scots law and practice in executing documents.

For further information see the Commission's news-release, and the project page on the Commission's website. The Bill can be viewed here.

Consolidation: Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Bill

Royal Assent to the Bill was given on 14 May 2014.

The Act gives effect to recommendations in a joint Report by the Law Commission for England and Wales and the Scottish Law Commission published in December 2013. The Act consolidates the legislation relating to co-operative and community benefit societies.

Current consultation

Third Party Rights in Contract

The Commission is currently consulting on questions set out in our Discussion Paper on Third Party Rights in Contract (DP No 157).

Views are invited by 20 June 2014. The Discussion Paper and further details can be found on our website here.