

**Commission on
Parliamentary
Reform**

Your Parliament
Your Voice

Coimisean air
Ath-leasachadh
Pàrlamaideach

Do Phàrlamaid
Do Ghuth

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Commission on Parliamentary Reform Wants to Hear Your Voice

The Commission on Parliamentary Reform which was established last month to give the Scottish Parliament's procedures an "MOT" wants to hear your voice on how Holyrood conducts its business.

The Commission today launched a call for views and is asking people from all walks of life across Scotland to respond. As well as writing to over 200 organisations, the Commission has launched a special online survey and a toolkit all designed to make it quick and easy for the public to give their opinion.

The Commission is also developing plans to visit local communities across Scotland next year to hear their views first hand and details of that will be announced next month.

Chair of the Commission, John McCormick said:

"17 years on, and with substantial new powers coming to Holyrood, the time is right for a review.

"Having a strong, effective parliament is in all our interests. The laws passed at Holyrood directly affect many aspects of our daily lives so it's important the public have a clear say in how their parliament is run.

"That is why the Commission is putting a strong emphasis on public engagement. We want to hear from Scots from all walks of life and from all parts of Scotland and I would encourage as many people as possible to send in their views, comments and suggestions.

"This is your Parliament and we need to hear your voice."

Background

The Commission was set up by the Parliament's Presiding Officer, the Rt Hon Ken Macintosh MSP and will report its findings by June 2017.

The remit of the Commission is to consider ways in which the Parliament can:

- be assured it has the right checks and balances in place for the effective conduct of parliamentary business;
- increase its engagement with wider society and the public; and
- clarify its identity as distinct from the Scottish Government.

Media information

Jane McEwan: 0131 348 6235

Text Relay calls welcome

jane.mcewan@parliament.scot

Website

Further information on the Commission and its membership can be found on its website at:

<https://parliamentaryreform.scot/>

You can also follow the Commission on twitter @ParlyReform