



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

CULTURE, TOURISM, EUROPE AND EXTERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

John McCormick
Chair
Commission on Parliamentary Reform

By email

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Dear Mr McCormick,

COMMISSION ON PARLIAMENTARY REFORM

Thank you for your letter of 24 November 2016, inviting the Culture, Tourism Europe and External Relations Committee to respond to the Commission's call for views. The Committee welcomes the opportunity to contribute to this piece of work.

On considering the call for views, our discussion focused on the effective conduct of parliamentary business. As the Committee meets on Thursday mornings, it is subject to strict time constraints, having to close by 11:40am when plenary business begins. The Committee has found this to be extremely challenging, particularly given its heavy workload.

Under this arrangement, the Committee regularly finds itself restricted both in its ability to hold in-depth discussions with key witnesses and to take evidence from a broad range of stakeholders. It considers that these issues could be resolved, at least partially, should a longer timeslot be made available to the Committee.

CPR_028 Commission on Parliamentary Reform
Written views from Culture, Tourism, Europe and External Relations
Committee

The Committee would welcome any consideration given to this matter by the
Commission.

Yours sincerely,

Joan McAlpine MSP
Convener
Culture, Tourism, Europe and External Relations Committee