

ISSUED ON BEHALF OF THE SCOTTISH LAW COMMISSION
ON FRIDAY 10 APRIL 2015

SCOTTISH LAW COMMISSION HOSTS COMMONWEALTH LAW REFORM CONFERENCE

The Scottish Law Commission is hosting a major and prestigious international law reform conference in Edinburgh on 11-12 April 2015.

The Conference is the biennial Conference of the Commonwealth Association of Law Reform Agencies (CALRAs). This is the first time the conference has been held in Scotland.

The conference will mark the 50th anniversary of the Scottish Law Commission, which was set up in 1965.

The theme of the conference is: Law Reform in a Fast-Changing World.

The keynote address will be delivered by the Rt Honourable Lord Carloway, the Lord Justice Clerk.

The conference will include a special session to mark the 50th anniversary with addresses by the Honourable Lord Pentland, Chairman of the Scottish Law Commission, and the Rt Honourable Justice Lloyd Jones, Chairman of the Law Commission for England and Wales.

The conference will include sessions on

- the independence of law reform agencies in the modern age;
- ways of involving stakeholders and experts in law reform;
- new developments on the implementation of reports of law reform agencies: this will include a presentation on the new process for law reform in the Scottish Parliament
- cyber crime; and
- law reform in the electronic age.

The conference will be attended by over 60 delegates, representing law reform bodies in countries across the Commonwealth and beyond. There will be delegates from many countries in Africa, India, Nepal, Mauritius, Cyprus, the Caribbean, Ireland, New Zealand, Canada and the UK.

The Chairman of the Scottish Law Commission, Lord Pentland, said:

“I am delighted that this prestigious international conference on law reform is being held for the first time in Edinburgh. It coincides with the 50th anniversary of the Scottish Law Commission. We are proud to be part of the Commonwealth family of law reform agencies, many of whom will be represented at the conference. By exchanging experiences and ideas we hope to learn much from each other and to promote the cause of law reform globally.”

NOTES TO EDITORS

Background:

1. CALRAs was established in 2003/04 to encourage international co-operation in law reform: essentially, to improve the law and society across the world. The Association is committed to the Commonwealth values and has formal Accreditation to the Commonwealth. CALRAs supports law reformers, and good practice in law reform. That includes law reformers working in Government, and those working in specialist law reform bodies or agencies.
2. The Scottish Law Commission was set up in 1965 to promote the reform of the law of Scotland. The Chairman is the Hon Lord Pentland, a Court of Session judge. The other Commissioners are Caroline Drummond, David Johnston QC, Professor Hector L MacQueen, and Dr Andrew J M Steven. The Chief Executive is Malcolm McMillan.
3. 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.gsi.gov.uk).
4. The paper may also be viewed on our website at <http://www.scotlawcom.gov.uk/> or purchased from TSO (<http://www.tsoshop.co.uk/>).