



# Scottish Law Commission

*promoting law reform*

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ISSUED ON BEHALF OF THE SCOTTISH LAW COMMISSION

1 SEPTEMBER 2015

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## Scottish Government's Programme for Government 2015-16: Commission Bills

The Scottish Law Commission welcomes the announcement by the First Minister that the Scottish Government intends to introduce a Bill to consolidate bankruptcy legislation for Scotland.

In 2013, the Commission published a Report and draft Bill on the Consolidation of Bankruptcy Legislation in Scotland (Scot Law Com No 232):

[http://www.scotlawcom.gov.uk/files/7113/6853/1202/Report\\_on\\_the\\_Consolidation\\_of\\_Bankruptcy\\_Legislation\\_in\\_Scotland.pdf](http://www.scotlawcom.gov.uk/files/7113/6853/1202/Report_on_the_Consolidation_of_Bankruptcy_Legislation_in_Scotland.pdf)

The Scottish Government have already introduced a Commission Bill to the Parliament – the Succession (Scotland) Bill, which would implement a number of Commission recommendations in our Succession Report in 2009: <http://www.scotlawcom.gov.uk/files/7112/7989/7451/rep215.pdf>. This is the second Bill to be introduced using the new Parliamentary process for implementing Commission Reports. The Bill covers a number of technical aspects of the law of succession.

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

“I am delighted that the Scottish Government has continued to use the new procedure established to improve the consideration and rate of implementation of Commission reports, by introducing the Succession (Scotland) Bill which is based on a Commission Report. It is also very encouraging that the Government intend to introduce a Bankruptcy Consolidation Bill, based on the Commission's work.”

### **Background**

#### *New Parliamentary process for Commission Bills*

In 2013 the Scottish Parliament decided to provide more Parliamentary time for certain Commission Bills, accepting the recommendations and draft changes to Standing Orders proposed by the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee. See the [Official Report for 28 May](#). The changes took effect on 5 June 2013. These changes provided for the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee to take the lead in scrutinising certain Commission Bills. The first Bill through this process passed successfully this year: the Legal Writings (Counterparts and Delivery) (Scotland) Act 2015.

## 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 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.

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

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