



# Scottish Law Commission

*promoting law reform*

news release • news release

ISSUED ON BEHALF OF THE SCOTTISH LAW COMMISSION  
NOT FOR PUBLICATION OR BROADCAST  
BEFORE 0001 HOURS 24 FEBRUARY 2020

\*\*\*\*\*

## SCOTTISH LAW COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT 2019

The Scottish Law Commission's Annual Report 2019 is published today.

The Report outlines progress on the Commission's law reform work during 2019. The Report explains the progress made on implementation of the Commission's recommendations, outlines the Commission's work to promote law reform and contains a forward look to publications planned for 2020.

The Chair of the Commission, Lady Paton said:

"2019 was both busy and productive. Publications included a report on section 53 of the Title Conditions (Scotland) Act 2003; a discussion paper on heritable securities pre-default; and two joint consultation papers on surrogacy and autonomous vehicles (projects being carried out with the Law Commission of England and Wales). We have been encouraged by recent developments in the implementation of the Commission's recommendations. The Scottish Government have introduced a Defamation and Malicious Publication (Scotland) Bill. They have consulted on judicial factors. Their current intention is to take forward the reform of the law of moveable transactions."

2019 was the second year of the Commission's Tenth Programme of law reform 2018-2022. The Programme includes a wide range of work: on family law; on the law of homicide; on surrogacy; on self-driving vehicles; on securities over land; on the law of leases; and on damages for personal injury. Further details can be found in the Report.

### FURTHER INFORMATION SECTION

1. The Scottish Law Commission was set up in 1965 to promote the reform of the law of Scotland. The Chair is the Rt Hon Lady Paton, a Court of Session judge. The other Commissioners are Kate Dowdalls QC and Professor Frankie McCarthy. The Chief Executive is Malcolm McMillan.

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

3. The paper will be available on our website at <https://www.scotlawcom.gov.uk> as early as possible on 24 February 2020.