

Scottish Parliament
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Edinburgh
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0131 348 86400
Date: 24/11/2016

Dear Convener

COMMISSION ON PARLIAMENTARY REFORM

On 26 October the Presiding Officer established the Commission on Parliamentary Reform and I have been appointed as its Chair.

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

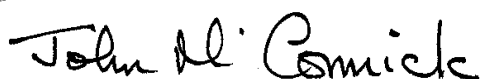
- increase engagement with wider society and the involvement of the public;
- clarify its identity as distinct from the Scottish Government; and
- ensure it has the right checks and balances in place for the effective conduct of parliamentary business.

As Parliamentary Committees have direct experience of working in Parliament, they are crucial to informing the Commission work. We are therefore keen to ensure that they are able to contribute their views on the way the Scottish Parliament works, what challenges Committees face in delivering effective scrutiny and engagement as well as any potential solutions to those challenges.

Today the Commission has launched its call for views and I invite your Committee to consider responding to it. I attached a link to the [Commission's call for written views](#) and your Committee may wish to consider the questions we have posed. I also draw your attention to the [policy on submitting written submissions](#). The closing date for written views is 15 February 2017.

The Commission looks forward to hearing from you. Please contact the Secretariat on 0131 3486400 or by email at cpr@parliament.scot should you have any questions or wish to discuss this further.

Best wishes,



John McCormick
Chair
Commission on Parliamentary Reform