



Appointment of Sir James Munby as new Chairman of the Law Commission of England and Wales

The Law Commission welcomes the appointment by the Lord Chancellor of the Honourable Mr Justice Munby as its new Chairman.

Sir James succeeds the Right Honourable Lord Justice Etherton (Sir Terence Etherton), who has completed his term of office as Chairman.

Sir Terence said:

I am very pleased to hand on the Chairmanship of such an eminent body as the Law Commission to Sir James Munby. He is a distinguished and highly respected jurist with knowledge and experience of wide areas of the law.

The new Chairman said:

I am delighted to have been appointed Chairman of the Law Commission. The Commission has made, and continues to make, a significant contribution to the law. I am very much looking forward to ensuring that the importance of this contribution is maintained and continues to be recognised.

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Notes for Editors

1. The Law Commission is a non-political independent body, set up by Parliament in 1965 to keep the law of England and Wales under review, and to recommend reform where it is needed. Although substantive reform of the law is a task for Parliament, satisfactory proposals for reform should be preceded by research and wide consultation with those who may be affected by the reforms.
2. The Law Commissions Act 1965 requires the Law Commission to submit proposed programmes of work to the Lord Chancellor for his approval before publishing. The Tenth Programme of Law Reform began in April 2008. It is expected that the Eleventh Programme will commence in April 2011.
3. The Chairman of the Law Commission is normally appointed for a period of three years. Sir Terence Etherton was appointed Chairman in August 2006.
4. Further details of the appointment of Sir James Munby are available on the Ministry of Justice website – <http://www.justice.gov.uk/latest-updates/newsrelease030809b.htm>.
4. Further information about the work of the Law Commission is available at <http://www.lawcom.gov.uk>.