



## **Lord Chancellor Appoints New Public Law Commissioner**

The Law Commission is delighted to welcome Kenneth Parker QC as the new Public Law Commissioner. Lord Falconer, the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Constitutional Affairs announced today that the five-year appointment will start on 1 January 2006.

The Chairman of the Law Commission, Sir Roger Toulson, welcomed Kenneth Parker QC, saying:

The Law Commission is greatly looking forward to Kenneth Parker joining us. He is a lawyer of outstanding calibre with particular experience in public law. He comes to the Law Commission at an important time, because we are about to start a wide-ranging project on remedies against public bodies.

I am also delighted to announce that the current Public Law Commissioner, Professor Martin Partington CBE, has agreed to stay on as a special consultant to complete our Renting Homes projects. Nearly a third of the population lives in rented accommodation, and it is important that the law should be fair and understandable to tenants and landlords.

### **Notes for Editors**

1. The Law Commission is a non-political independent body, set up by Parliament in 1965 to keep all the law of England and Wales under review, and to recommend reform where it is needed. Commissioners are appointed by the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Constitutional Affairs for up to five years, although their appointments may be extended.
2. Kenneth Parker QC is a leading practitioner in European, competition and public law. He was appointed Queen's Counsel in 1992 and he has appeared in a number of high profile cases in his specialist fields. He was made Recorder in 1999 and in 2000 became a Member of the Information Tribunal with special responsibility for appeals concerning national security. He is a Bencher of Gray's Inn.
3. Mr Parker was educated at Kettering Grammar School and Exeter College, Oxford, where he obtained first class honours in Greats and was awarded the Vinerian Scholarship in the B.C.L. Before coming to the Bar in 1976 he was a Fellow of Exeter College, Oxford and a University lecturer in law.
4. Professor Martin Partington CBE joined the Commission in January 2001 for up to five years. Previously, he was Professor of Law at Bristol University where he was Dean of Law, Head of Department and Pro-Vice Chancellor. Martin was called to the Bar (Middle Temple) in 1984. He has also worked on the Judicial Studies Board, the Council on Tribunals and the Civil Justice Council.

5. In his time at the Commission, Martin has taken through the very important work of the Renting Homes project, and has begun working on two follow-up, and equally far-reaching projects: on resolving housing disputes; and ensuring responsible behaviours by landlords and tenants.

6. For all press queries please contact:

Jessica Litten  
Communications Manager

tel: 020 7453 1273

Dan Leighton  
Editor

tel: 020 7453 1235

e-mail:

[communications@lawcommission.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:communications@lawcommission.gsi.gov.uk)