



**Law
Commission**

Reforming the law

Conquest House 37-38 John Street
Theobalds Road, London, WC1N 2BQ
t: 020 7453 1235 f: 020 7453 1297
e: communications@lawcommission.gsi.gov.uk

**Press Release
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Chairman of the Law Commission Reappointed

The Honourable Mr Justice Toulson (Sir Roger) has accepted the Lord Chancellor's invitation to stay at the Law Commission for an extra year to spearhead the Strategic Review. The Strategic Review will allow the Commission to step back from its every day work and look at what it could and should be doing in the medium to long term.

Lord Falconer, the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Constitutional Affairs, said:

The Law Commission is a very valuable public asset and I am delighted that Sir Roger has agreed to continue in office. He has been an excellent Chairman. As one of the prime architects of the Commission's current 'Strategic Review', he is the ideal person to take it forward to its conclusion. The Review's outcome will determine the shape of the Commission and its work for the coming decade and beyond.

In accepting the reappointment, Sir Roger said:

The Commission through our Strategic Review, is looking to make sure that the work it does remains relevant. Among other projects, it will shortly begin an important project on the remedies available to cohabiting couples when a relationship ends, and is continuing with its work on renting homes, which affects a third of the population of England and Wales. I am pleased to be able to continue as its Chairman. I genuinely believe the Commission makes a difference by reforming the law to make it clearer and more accessible. I would like in the next year to see an improved rate of implementation of those reports where our recommendations have been accepted

ENDS

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. Substantial reform of the law is a task for Parliament, but proposals for reform may not be satisfactory unless they are 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 Ninth Programme of Law Reform was announced in April 2005, and the Tenth Programme will be announced on 1 April 2007.
3. Sir Roger has been Chairman since August 2002. He was called to the Bar in 1969 and was appointed a QC in 1986. He was made a High Court Judge (Queen's Bench Division) and Judge of the Commercial Court in 1996. He also sits as a Judge of the Administrative Court. Sir Roger was a presiding Judge of the Western Circuit from 1997 to 2002.
4. A photo of Sir Roger is available from the Law Commission Communications Team on 020 7453 1273.