For a full list of Scottish Government consultations and texts see www.scotland.gov.uk/Consultations for UK Government consultations see the links to pages listed at http://bit.ly/ukgovconsult

SCOLAG Legal Journal is happy to include all types of consultations. Our pages are open to campaigning groups, voluntary and statutory bodies, MSPs and others. Please send details to: consultations@scolag.org

Firearms Control
Closing 08/05/12 The Home Office seeks views on whether to make changes to the current sentencing framework for the illegal importation of firearms. It also seeks views on whether to introduce new firearms legislation targeted at individuals who supply firearms (or possess them with the intent to supply) to the criminal market and if so, what would be an appropriate sentence.

Ref: Consultation into: Legislative Changes To Firearms Controls Consultation, Violent & Youth Crime Prevention Unit, 4th Floor Fry Building, 2 Marsham Street, London, SW1P 4DF. However, if wishing to complain that this consultation on a request to pass firearms for over 18 years will be processed from Scotland, contact Adam McCarride, Consultation Co-ordinator, Home Office, Performance & Delivery Unit, Better Regulation Team, 3rd Floor Seacole, 2 Marsham Street, London, SW1P 4DF; or Adam.McCarride2@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk.

Your Scotland - Your Referendum
Closing 15/05/12 This Scottish Government consultation paper invites views on the proposals for how the referendum on independence will be run. A draft Referendum Bill is set out as an appendix to the document. The Scottish Government will publish the contributions it receives and use them to inform the further development of the Bill before it is debated in the Scottish Parliament during 2013. The referendum will be held in the autumn of 2014. For details see http://bit.ly/INDRef. Contact Referendum Consultation, Elections and Constitutional Development Division, Area 3D (South), Victoria Quay, Edinburgh, EH6 6QQ or referenduminformation@scotland.gsi.gov.uk.

Proof of Age Amendment Regulations
Closing 11/05/12 A Scottish Government consultation on amending the forms of ID retailers can accept as proof of age.

Contact Stuart Morrison, Licensing & Charity Law Team, 2W St Andrew’s House, Regent Road, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG; 0131 244 3247; or charitylaw@scotland.gsi.gov.uk.

Children’s Hearings - Safeguarder’s Fees Closing 11/05/12 This consultation is to gather views from all interested parties on proposals for the remuneration of Safeguards. See http://bit.ly/iwdu4f for details.

Contact lain Fitheridge, Children’s Hearings Team, Area 2B North, Victoria Quay, Edinburgh, EH6 6QQ; 0131 244 5489; or lain.fitheridge@scotland.gsi.gov.uk.

Bankruptcy Law Reform
Closing 18/05/12 This Scottish Government consultation examines and makes recommendations on many aspects of bankruptcy law. It seeks views on those recommendations with a view to modernising current Scottish insolvency legislation. Details and links to associated documents are available via http://bit.ly/y6dNEx.

Contact Diane Dunn on 0300 200 2701 or diane.dunn@aiib.gsi.gov.uk; Bankruptcy Law Reform, Accountant in Bankruptcy, 1 Pennyburn Road, Kilwinning, KA13 6SA.

Legal Deposit Libraries: Non-print Works
Closing 18/05/12

The Department for Culture, Media and Sport is consulting on the Draft Legal Deposit Libraries (non-print works) Regulations 2013. These are designed to ensure the Legal Deposit Libraries provide a national archive of the UK’s non-print published material. Details and links to the relevant documents are available via http://bit.ly/y1UI0t.

Contact Daniel Halpern, Libraries Team, Department for Culture, Media and Sport, 2-4 Cockspur Street, London, SW1Y 5DH; or legal_deposit@culture.gsi.gov.uk.

Public Records
Closing 18/05/12

The Public Records (Scotland) Act 2011 requires named public authorities to submit a records management plan (RMP) to be agreed by the Keeper of the Records of Scotland (the Keeper). To assist authorities, the Keeper must develop and publish a model plan and provide supporting guidance on the form and content of that plan. The Keeper seeks views on the draft model RMP and guidance. For full details and links to relevant documents go to http://bit.ly/zm46pa.

Contact The Keeper of the Records of Scotland, HM General Register House, 2 Princes Street, Edinburgh, EH1 3YV; or publicrecords@nas.gov.uk.

Tenant Information Pack
Closing 21/05/12

The Scottish Government seeks views on tenant information packs in the private rented sector: what information should be contained, what the pack should look like and how it will work in practice. See http://bit.ly/1UkMtxC for details.

Contact Graeme Buck on 0131 244 7923 or Tenantinformationpackconsultation@scotland.gsi.gov.uk.

Common European Sales Law
Closing 21/05/12

The UK Government calls for evidence on the potential costs and benefits of the European Commission’s proposed Regulation for a Common European Sales Law. The Call is issued with the aim of obtaining views from interested parties to assist Government in developing a future position on the proposed Regulation. It also seeks specific statistical data and potential costs, benefits and risks of operating an alternative EU contract law regime for cross-border sales alongside national domestic laws in this area. The proposed Regulation will apply in business-to-consumer and business-to-business contracts where one of the parties to the contract is a Small or Medium Enterprise. The Call for Evidence is available at http://bit.ly/h6C0ob.

Contact Paul Allen on 0131 244 2196 or paul.allen@scotland.gsi.gov.uk.

Private Renting
Closing 30/05/12

The Scottish Government seeks views on three options to improve the law in the private rented sector, as per Section 32 of the Private Rented Housing (Scotland) Act 2011. See http://bit.ly/1WRLux for details.

Contact Yvonne Gavan on 0141 271 3782, or Yvonne.Gavan@scotland.gsi.gov.uk.

Regulation of Health Care Professionals
Closing 31/05/12

The Law Commissions of England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland are seeking views on how the regulation of health care professionals in the UK and social workers in England can be made clearer, simpler, more modern and more consistent. In their first ever joint consultation, the Commissions are setting out provisional proposals for the structure of a new legal framework across the UK and seeking views on how a new framework would work. For details see http://bit.ly/H9gSgo.

Contact John Dods, Project Manager, via john.dods@scotlawcom.gsi.gov.uk.

Ticket Touting
Closing 31/05/12

The Scottish Government is consulting on The Glasgow Commonwealth Games Act 2008 (Ticket Touting Offence) (Exceptions for Use of Internet etc.) (Scotland) Regulations 2012. These specify the circumstances when the proposition of internet services or other electronic media may or may not constitute the ticket touting offence under s.17 of the Glasgow Commonwealth Games Act 2008. For details see http://bit.ly/GQGtFEP.

Contact Games Delivery Team, Scottish Government, Area 1-G (South), Victoria Quay, Edinburgh, EH6 6QO or gamesdelivery@scotland.gsi.gov.uk.

Discipline, Grievance & ‘No-fault’ Dismissal
Closing 08/06/12

The Department for Business, Innovation & Skills is seeking evidence on current dismissal processes, including the Acas Code of Practice on Discipline and Grievance and also on the concept of “compensated no fault dismissal” for “micro businesses” (those employing fewer than 10 staff). This call for evidence sets out in the current legal framework for dismissal, summarises the existing evidence and asks respondents to consider a number of questions and provide evidence. For further details see http://bit.ly/dismissals.

Contact Shelley Torey, 3rd Floor Abbey2, Department for Business, Innovations & Skills, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, or dismissal.callfor Evidence@bis.gsi.gov.uk.

Public Inquiries
Closing 08/06/12

This consultation is on the draft Inquiries (Scotland) Rules 2011, amendments to the 2007 Rules - rules of procedure, which are adopted at inquiries held in Scotland under the Inquiries Act 2005. See http://bit.ly/jbfbd0 for details.

Contact The Scottish Government, Legal System Division, Floor 2 West, St Andrews House, Regent Road, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG; or jill.clark@scotland.gsi.gov.uk.

Equal Civil Marriage (E&W)
Closing 14/06/12

This consultation sets out the UK Government’s proposals to allow same-sex couples to have a civil marriage in England and Wales. Full details of the consultation are available via http://bit.ly/H3H7t7.

Contact Government Equalities Office, 3rd Floor Fry, 2 Marsham Street, London, SW1P 4DF; or equalcivilmarriage@geo.gsi.gov.uk.
New Tribunal System for Scotland
Closing 15/06/12
The Scottish Government seeks views on a proposal to create an integrated tribunals system in Scotland. Specifically, establishing two new, generic tribunals, the First-tier Tribunal and the Upper-tier Tribunal, with first-tier chambers, into which existing tribunal jurisdictions can be transferred. See http://bit.ly/ScotTrib.
Contact Kyle MacDonald, Scottish Tribunals Service Division, 2 West, St Andrew’s House, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG; 0131 244 3634; or Kyle.macdonald@scotland.gsi.gov.uk.

Research & Statistical Data Sharing
Closing 15/06/12
This Scottish Government consultation seeks views on the aims of a Scotland-wide Data Linkage Framework and a draft set of guiding principles. The collaborative framework will facilitate data links for research and statistical purposes to be conducted safely, securely, legally, ethically and efficiently. This is concerned exclusively with data linkage for research and statistical purposes. It does not cover the sharing of personal information about an individual between organisations. See http://bit.ly/3HF2VY for details.
Contact Professor John Beattie and Dr David Fisher, University of Stirling, Edinburgh EH1 3DG; or data linkage consultation@scotland.gsi.gov.uk.

Planning
Closing 22/06/12
The Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions, UK Government’s Consultation on the Planning System 2012 relates to draft legislation for a number of refinements and amendments to the procedures on development management, schemes of delegation, development consent orders and appeals. See http://bit.ly/JF2Y2V for details.
Contact Alan Cameron, 0131 244 7065; or email: Planningsystemamendments2012@scotland.gsi.gov.uk.

Fees for Planning Applications
Closing 22/06/12
Contact Fees for Planning Applications, Directorate for the Built Environment, Scottish Government, 2J (South), Victoria Quay, Edinburgh, EH6 6QH; or email: feesforplanningapplications2012@scotland.gsi.gov.uk.

General Permitted Development
Closing 22/06/12
Views are sought on draft legislation for a number of refinements and amendments to the non-domestic elements of the General Permitted Development Order. See http://bit.ly/JWw4x2.
Contact David Reekie on 0131 244 7825 or david.reakie@scotland.gsi.gov.uk.

Private Actions in Competition Law
Closing 24/07/12
Contact Tony Monibat, Consumer and Competition Policy, Department of Business, Innovation & Skills, 1 Victoria Street, London, SW1H 0ET; 0207 215 6982; or email: competition.private.actions@bis.gsi.gov.uk.

Charter of Patient Rights & Responsibilities
Closing 25/06/12
Views are sought on the draft Charter of Patient Rights and Responsibilities (the Charter), which will be laid before the Scottish Parliament and published by 1st October 2012. It is introduced by The Rights (Scotland) Act 2011, which requires Ministers to publish a Charter setting out a summary of the rights and responsibilities of patients and other relevant people. See http://bit.ly/1eO59w for further details.
Contact Fiona Wherrett, Patient Support and Participation Division, Scottish Government, St Andrew’s House (GER), Regent Road, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG; 0131 244 2454; or email: patient.rights@scotland.gsi.gov.uk.

Rail Fares & Ticketing
Closing 28/06/12
This Department for Transport consultation is designed to gather evidence to inform the Government’s Rail Fares and Ticketing Review. For further details see http://bit.ly/GS85v.
Contact Department for Transport, Rail fares & ticketing review, 3/15 Great Minster House, 33 Horseferry Road, London, SW1P 4DR; or railfaresandticketingconsultation@dft.gsi.gov.uk.

Alcohol, Public Health & Criminal Justice
Closing 29/06/12
Views are sought on a draft proposal by Richard Simpson MSP and Graeme Pearson MSP for a bill to promote public health and reduce alcohol-related offending through: (a) restrictions on the retailing and advertising of alcoholic drinks; (b) changes to licensing laws; (c) obligations on Scottish Ministers to issue guidance and report; and (d) directing offenders towards treatment or restricting their access to alcohol. See http://bit.ly/H3Eg9M.
Contact Dr Richard Simpson MSP, Room MG-21, Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH9 1SP; 0131 248 6330; or Richard.Simpson.msp@scottish.parliament.uk.

Formation of Contract
Closing 29/06/12
The Scottish Law Commission has issued a consultation document for further details.
Contact Dr Yvonne Gavan on 0141 271 3782 or info@scotlawcom.gsi.gov.uk.

Benefits: DLA Reform & PIP
Closing 30/06/12
This consultation seeks views on the Government’s proposals on some of the benefit rules underpinning Personal Independence Payment, Disability Living Allowance, Carer’s Allowance and Attendance Allowance. These will inform the development of secondary legislation. It also provides further information on policy decisions that have now been made. The DWP is keen to hear views from all interested parties but in particular from disabled people and disability organisations. The consultation document is available via http://bit.ly/H6CnU.
Contact DWP Policy Team, Caution House, Tolthill Street, London, SW1H 9NA; or email: DLAfeedback@dwp.gsi.gov.uk.

Responsible Parking (Scotland)
Closing 30/06/12
Views are sought on a proposal by Joe FitzPatrick MSP for a Bill that allows freedom of movement for all pedestrians by restricting parking at dropped kerbs, on pavements and double parking. For details see http://bit.ly/KhuXF.
Contact Joe FitzPatrick, Room M5:12, Scottish Parliament, Parliament, Edinburgh, EH9 1SP; 0131 348 6273; or parking@joefitzpatrick.net.

Unincorporated Associations & Criminal Liability of Partnerships
Closing 02/07/12
The UK Government has launched a consultation on “Reforming the law on Scottish unincorporated associations and criminal liability of Scottish partnerships”. Based on the recent work of the Scottish Law Commission, it seeks views on two topics: the proposal to attribute legal personality to unincorporated associations where they meet certain statutory criteria; and secondly, to reform the law on criminal liability of dissolved Scottish partnerships and their partners, with the principle intention to address a loophole in Scots law that allows Scottish partnerships to escape prosecution for potentially serious offences by dissolving. See http://bit.ly/JDKmCq for details.
Contact Sheila Scobie, Scotland Office, Dover House, London SW1A 2AU; 020 7 270 6738; or sheila.scobie@scotlandoffice.gsi.gov.uk.

Child Protection Learning & Development
Closing 06/07/12
The Scottish Government seeks views on its National Framework for Child Protection Learning & Development in Scotland 2012. The framework has been developed to support those who are responsible for the learning and development needs of the multi-agency workforce. It is a multi-agency document for those who commission, develop, purchase, and deliver education, training and learning for those working with children and young people, to help them protect children and young people from risk of harm. For details see http://bit.ly/KqP2L9.
Contact Chris Bain on 0131 244 4906. Respond to Donna McLean, Child Protection Policy Team, Area 2B North, Victoria Quay, Edinburgh, EH6 6QQ; or ChildProtection@scotland.gsi.gov.uk.

Strategy for the Private Rented Sector
Closing 10/07/12
The Scottish Government seeks views on the vision and strategic aims that will grow and improve the quality of the private rented sector in Scotland over the next decade. For details see http://bit.ly/JItt6U.
Contact Yvonne Gavan on 0141 271 3782 or PRSstrategy2012@scotland.gsi.gov.uk.

Protecting Consumers
Closing 12/07/12
The Scottish Law Commission, in conjunction with the Law Commission for England and Wales, is asking for views on how the law should be changed to ensure that consumers have a clear and easy route to redress if they fall victim to misleading and aggressive practices. For further details, see the SLC’s project page (http://bit.ly/JG0kYv).
Contact Gillian Swanson, Scottish Law Commission, 21 Victoria Street, London, SW1H 9NA; or email: swanson.g@scotland.gsi.gov.uk.

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