

Ref AL

8th June 2006



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

RECEIVED
16 JUN 2005

Sir Alistair Graham
Chair
Committee on Standards in Public Life
35 Great Smith Street
London
SW1P 3BQ

Dear Sir Alistair,

Thank you for your invitation to submit evidence to the Committee on Standards in Public Life's review of the Electoral Commission.

A large part of the speech I made during the Second Reading of the Electoral Administration Bill debate was about the importance of ensuring polling stations, ballot papers and registration forms were fully accessible to disabled people. The information I based my speech on came from two disability organisations, SCOPE and the Disability Rights Commission. Therefore if your committee want to take evidence on these issues it would be more appropriate to contact these organisations directly.

While I do have strong views on the imperative of ensuring all polling stations, ballot papers and voter registration forms are accessible to all regardless of their disability, I do feel that the disability organisations have a wider perspective on what this may mean in practice.

If I can be of any further help please don't hesitate to get in touch with me.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anne'.

ANNE BEGG MP
Aberdeen South