

Bruce Crawford MSP  
Convener  
Devolution (Further Powers) Committee  
The Scottish Parliament  
Edinburgh  
EH99 1SP

23 June 2015

Dear Bruce

I am pleased to enclose a copy of our second statutory report on the Scottish Independence Referendum, which was laid before the Scottish Parliament this morning.

This report provides an overview of the regulatory controls on spending that applied at the referendum and details our views on the effectiveness of the rules. Based on this, the Commission makes recommendations in the following areas; regulating campaigners that work together; regulating loans; reporting low-level spending; reporting pre-registration spending; late claims and payments; and the ability of campaigners to check the permissibility of donations and loans.

The full report and recommendations can be read here:

[http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0018/190521/Casework-and-spending-report.pdf](http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0018/190521/Casework-and-spending-report.pdf)

In addition to describing the spending of the 42 campaigners at the referendum, today's report also includes details of the casework and enforcement approach of the Commission and any potential breaches of the rules.

This report serves to highlight that the Scottish independence referendum remains a good example of a well-run referendum. The lessons learnt in Scotland should provide

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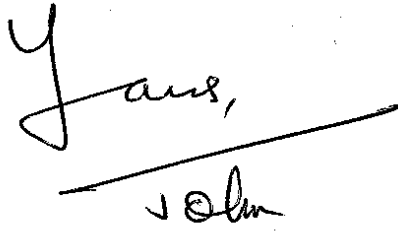
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an excellent template for how future referendums should be legislated for, administered and regulated.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John McCormick', with a horizontal line drawn across the middle of the signature.

John McCormick  
Electoral Commissioner

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# The Electoral Commission