

- the academic/official relationship has often worked productively for the SPG in the past, especially in allowing officials to get ideas considered that they fear won't be presented by their political masters. At the same time, the academics' theoretical approach can be challenged by the experience of the practitioners - and academic theory also challenges practitioners' ideas and complacency
- a way of getting ideas across that will not be put forward by the Speaker/Commission/PO, for example
- Genesis of Commission
 - First report
 - Themes
 - Reception
 - Legislation?
- Membership
 - Changes
 - How it works/relationship with political parties
- Part 2 TOR – strange references to Parliament (Lords!)

To review the powers of the National Assembly for Wales in the light of experience and to recommend modifications to the present constitutional arrangements that would enable the United Kingdom Parliament and the National Assembly for Wales to better serve the people of Wales.

- In undertaking Part II, the Commission should:
 - ☐ examine the powers of the National Assembly for Wales, and in particular:
 - ☐ the boundary between what is devolved and non-devolved;
 - ☐ whether modifications to the boundary should be made at this stage; and
 - ☐ any cross-border implications of such

modifications;

☐ consult widely on any proposed modifications to the current boundary;

☐ make recommendations on any modifications to the settlement likely to have a wide degree of support; and

☐ consider and make recommendations on how best to resolve the legal and practical implementation issues from those modifications.

The Commission will not consider, in part II, the structure of the National Assembly for Wales, including issues relating to the election of Assembly Members.

- Calman

To review the provisions of the [Scotland Act 1998](#) in the light of experience and to recommend any changes to the present constitutional arrangements that would enable the Scottish Parliament to serve the people of [Scotland](#) better, improve the financial accountability of the Scottish Parliament and continue to secure the position of Scotland within the [United Kingdom](#)

- Relationship with SP
- But recommendations for UK Parlt also
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- Likely course of proceedings
 - Call for evidence
 - General to 600+ (all MPs, Welsh Peers, AMs included)
 - Special letters to PO, Speaker, Lord Speaker
 - Progress round Wales – thematic use of Universities
 - Engagement with politicians (121; committees)
 - Scotland/NI visits
 - Consideration of draft in late autumn
 - Will we achieve unanimity?
 - What does UK Govt expect?
 - Pitch for manifestoes for 2015

- Issues that are likely to come up
 - Scottish/NI/Wales model
 - Jurisdiction
 - Policing
 - Administration of justice
 - Broadcasting
 - Energy
 - Things out of woodwork
 - Do we need to consider the extremes – defence? Social security?

- Principles
- Intellectual case for devolution boundary – challenge for unionists
- Practical issues

- SPG's USPs - there is no point in the Group saying the same as others, but you would best concentrate on what you know best. Things like
 - how Parliament to Assembly relations work and could be improved
 - how Welsh affairs ought to be considered in Parliament post-devolution
 - what practical problems there are for the Assembly because of the reserved/conferred powers models, and how Scottish Parliament/NI Assembly experience differs
 - what other inhibitions there are on the Assembly because of Westminster legislation – nothing too trivial here!

- comparative evidence particularly welcome

- strong emphasis on capacity is vital, and, while the SPG has to think of what to say that is within our TOR, it shouldn't itself feel constrained by them. So I'd expect to see (for example) some good comparative evidence that would allow deductions to be drawn about optimum size/optimum efficiency of legislatures, and some discussion of what it would mean to (say) devolve policing and justice in terms of Assembly capacity

- We report to the UK Govt, so I think the emphasis should be on what the UK Govt/Parliament ought to do - I would steer the Commission away from making comments on things wholly within the Assembly's control (e.g. sitting times; committee structure, so far as not governed by UK Statute)
- Encourage SPG evidence to be solution-based: there are not many people in this particular field and so the format "clear Problem - fair Analysis - rational and practical Solution" is likely to result in a recommendation for change from the Commission. This would seem to me more productive than something more discursive
- This may not be sexy stuff for my colleagues
- Oral evidence??