



Communities and Local Government Committee

House of Commons London SW1P 3JA

Tel 020 7219 3927 Email mckeeg@parliament.uk Website www.parliament.uk

Twitter @CommonsCLG

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Scrutiny officers in local authorities in England

Dear colleagues,

Inquiry into Community Rights

The Communities and Local Government Committee has today launched an inquiry into 'community rights', most of which were provided through the Localism Act 2011.

I am writing to you both to draw your attention to the inquiry and also to invite local authority scrutiny committees to submit written evidence. It is quite easy to do this through our new evidence portal.

The Committee is keen to build links with local government scrutiny. While we often receive valuable evidence from local authorities, we very rarely receive evidence specifically from scrutiny committees. Community rights are an issue on which a local scrutiny perspective would be especially valuable. The Committee is particularly keen to hear the perspective of local authorities that have direct experience of the operation of the rights or have promoted them. The Committee would further be especially interested if local authorities were able to share, in written submissions, the findings of any recent scrutiny reviews of the use of community rights within their areas. The submissions need only be brief, setting out the key findings and, potentially, linking to any reports produced.

How to submit evidence: Full terms of reference for the inquiry can be found on the Committee's [website](#). Written evidence can be uploaded on to the website via the Committee's online [portal](#). The deadline for submission is Thursday 4 September 2014.

If you have any questions about the inquiry, please contact [me](#) on 020 7219 4972.

We look forward to hearing from you. If you are not able to contribute on this occasion, I hope you will continue to take an interest in the work of the Committee. Parliament has a dedicated [webpage](#) to provide further information for those working in local government scrutiny and we plan to invite further contributions in the future.

Yours sincerely

Glenn McKee

Clerk, Communities and Local Government Committee