SCOTTISH INDEPENDENCE REFERENDUM BILL

WRITTEN SUBMISSION FROM THE LONDON SCOTTISH CONSERVATIVE CLUB (LSCC)

The LSCC believes:

- there should be a single, clear and neutral question on the subject of independence or not

- the referendum should be held sooner rather than later as the uncertainty caused by delaying it further could damage the economy

- the referendum process ought to be run independently by the Electoral Commission

- in return for granting the SNP a vote for 16 and 17 year olds, the ‘Overseas 15 year rule’ – the rule that applies in UK general elections and European Parliament elections that enables non-UK residents to vote if they were resident in the UK during the previous 15 years - should be adopted with a minor addition to also include those formerly registered in Scotland but now registered elsewhere in the United Kingdom being granted the right to vote in the Scottish referendum

- the SNP’s proposed application of the same voter eligibility as the Scottish Parliamentary and council elections is not appropriate for a decision which is permanent, unlike a four year tenure.

3 June 2013