REPORT OF THE
COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION
SCOTLAND BRANCH DELEGATION VISIT TO
AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND

Friday 9 to Saturday 24 OCTOBER 2009
Introduction

1. The Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) is an international community of Commonwealth Parliaments and Legislatures working together to deepen the Commonwealth’s commitment to the highest standards of democratic governance. Parliaments, their Members and officials learn from each other through CPA activities which includes inter-parliamentary visits.

2. Under the auspices of the CPA, the Scottish Parliament has hosted a number of delegations and visitors to the Scottish Parliament from various parts of Australia and New Zealand over our ten years. This has helped to build on the strong links we have with both countries already, where tens of thousands claim Scottish ancestry.

3. This particular visit, the first ever by a cross-party group of MSPs to this part of the world, arose from formal invitations to the Presiding Officer, from both the Australian and New Zealand Parliaments. The Presiding Officer and delegation (Ross Finnie MSP, Ted Brocklebank MSP, Rhoda Grant MSP and Sandra White MSP) were offered a full itinerary of meetings and events, across a number of locations, in both countries. This provided excellent opportunities to reach out across a wide spectrum of individuals and groups with very strong links to Scotland and to build on the clear enthusiasm shown by others, as a result of the formal invitations.

4. In the year of a key multi-agency effort to promote Homecoming and when the Scottish Parliament was also actively promoting a decade of devolution, it made business sense to use the opportunity offered to create interest in, and attract visitors to, Scotland and the Scottish Parliament.

5. We also have in common a number of areas of mutual parliamentary interest with Australia and New Zealand. These include coalition and minority governments, minority languages and comparable legislative processes. The delegation therefore had an excellent chance to learn a number of lessons, in these specific areas and others, from our counterparts in that part of the world.

6. Likewise, Parliamentarians from Australia (both at State and Federal levels) and New Zealand were very keen to hear about our own innovative work, including the Festival of Politics and the Public Petitions Committee. The full programme undertaken (and published) was tailored to the objectives outlined for the delegation and designed to maximise opportunities to share information and ensure that the delegation would return home with substantive ideas and proposals.
7. This Report outlines how each objective was met, the ideas that have subsequently been generated and follow-up actions the delegation is keen to pursue, to build on the substantial benefits the visit provided.

8. A copy of the visit programme is attached at annex A.

**Objective 1**

**Strengthen existing links between Members of the Scottish Parliament and the Australian Federal and State Parliaments.**

9. The delegation visited the legislatures of South Australia, Western Australia, Victoria and the Federal Parliament in Canberra to renew and establish friendships with fellow parliamentarians through formal and informal meetings. The programme was designed to meet the specific objectives of the visit and focused on the following areas:

- *The Scottish Parliament’s experience of devolution*
- *Public Participation*
- *Engaging youth with the institution of Parliament and other initiatives to stimulate interest in democracy amongst young people.*
- *The Festival of Politics*
- *Parliamentary issues*
- *Climate Change*
- *Domestic Violence policy*
- *How Scots immigrants shaped and influenced culture*
- *Provision for sufferers of Multiple Sclerosis (MS)*
- *Commonwealth Games Legacy*

10. Feedback on a number of these areas is set out below.

11. During the course of the programme the Presiding Officer and delegation met with the Speakers and Deputy Speakers of the Parliaments of Victoria, Western Australia and South Australia as well as the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President and Deputy President of the Senate of the Australian Parliament. In addition, the delegation was able to meet with current and former Ministers, a large cross section of MPs from across the political spectrum and also received briefings from the Deputy High Commissioner in Canberra and the British Consul General in Melbourne. The wide range of contacts made was invaluable and provided the delegation members with an excellent overview of Australian politics, government and current affairs.
Public Participation

12. The delegation had a number of meetings around the issue of public participation and youth engagement. On that theme, Members were particularly impressed by their visit to the Constitutional Centre of Western Australia. Funded by the Western Australian Government, the Centre was established to encourage people of all ages and backgrounds to learn more about how the Australian political system works and how to participate in it more fully.

13. The Centre is the only complex of its kind in Australia and provides information, a programme of exhibitions, seminars and events giving Western Australians the opportunity to learn about the federal system of State and Commonwealth government and to explore current issues. The Centre is housed in a restored heritage building and is set in grounds close to Parliament House. As well as exhibition and seminar facilities the Centre also has a theatre and a parliamentary-style debating chamber. The Centre has permanent displays on the Constitution, aspects of citizenship and history relating to governance and also runs special programmes to meet the needs of primary and secondary school groups. Visitors are also encouraged to visit the nearby Parliament. Since the Centre opened in 1997 approximately 218,000 school children have visited.

14. As indicated above, delegation members were extremely impressed by this facility and recommend that relevant Parliament officials look at the Centre in more detail to ascertain whether there are any lessons that Scotland could learn from its operation.

Youth Engagement

15. During the course of the visit, the delegation received presentations on the education/outreach services provided in the Parliament of Western Australia and in the Federal Parliament in Canberra. Although the level of staffing and resources varied between institutions, the use of a mock-up Debating Chamber and role play played a part in the various school education programmes.

Western Australia

16. The Parliamentary Education Office (PEO) in Western Australia has 5 members of staff – one full time Education Officer (Manager), one full time Deputy Education Officer, two part time Education Presenters and a part time Administrative Assistant. In addition there are 12 part-time Outreach Presenters located in the regional and metropolitan areas.
17. Outreach work in Western Australia was specifically targeted towards Aboriginal communities in the far north of the State. Historically, Aboriginal peoples had not had the same rights as other citizens in Australia. For example, in some Australian States, Aboriginal people were only given voting rights in the 1960s. In addition, statistical evidence demonstrated that social problems amongst the Aboriginal people were disproportionate in relation to other groups in Western Australia.

18. The Hear Me! programme is a new venture which began in July 2009. So far the Parliament’s outreach team has visited 25 out of the 76 very remote Aboriginal communities. Visit times are restricted by weather, airstrip and road conditions however 25 schools, 33 classes and 700 people from kindergarten to adult have been involved in this programme. By way of example, outreach staff must travel 4 hours by air to reach the largest town in the North which illustrates the magnitude of the challenge facing the Parliament of Western Australia to reach marginalised communities.

19. The outreach staff had taken an interesting approach to this work by linking the unique history of the Aboriginal people to parliamentary mentors – Aborigines who had been elected to Parliament. Evaluation forms had been issued however these programmes were fairly new and still in the early development stages therefore it was not clear what levels of success, or otherwise, they were achieving. Outreach staff were optimistic that there were signs that the programmes were making an impact although it would be several years before the results of this work could be fully evaluated.

20. As well as working with the Aboriginal population in their own communities, the PEO exists to promote awareness, knowledge and understanding about the Parliament of Western Australia more generally. As such staff are involved in the planning of events, tours, youth parliaments and the coordination of an internship programme for university students.

21. As part of these wider activities, the Parliament runs the Joint Civics Education Outreach Program. This is a collaborative programme between the Parliament of Western Australia, the Constitutional Centre of Western Australia and the Western Electoral Commission and provides an opportunity for around 12,000 schoolchildren to participate each year - this is in addition to children who visit the Parliament under the auspices of other programmes. The Western Australia Parliament does not fund school/community visits to the Parliament.

22. The delegation was impressed by this joined up approach and recommends that officials contact the Electoral Commission (Scotland) to explore the possibility of collaborating to enhance understanding of the relevance of Scotland’s political and legal systems and how this affects daily lives to encourage participation.
Federal Parliament

23. In Canberra the Parliamentary Education Service had a large team of 15 members of staff and an annual budget of $AUS 1.5 million (approx. £840,000). The team deliver 18 classes a day and around 90,000 children per year go through the education programme. Programmes are generally targeted at 11-12 year olds who account for 85% of the total number of schoolchildren using the service. Materials are provided to children and teachers through the Parliament website as well as in hard copy formats. The Federal Parliament also provides a school travel subsidy which is dependent on the distance of the school from Canberra. In addition, schools may purchase a role play tool kit complete with cloaks, mace etc and instructions for use. This toolkit has been particularly useful for schools in more remote areas and enables teachers to conduct the type of mock debate which children would receive during an actual visit to the Parliament.

24. The delegation was impressed by the numbers of children going through the Federal Parliament programme (although recognised the significant resources involved). They were also impressed by the role play tool kit facility and recommend that relevant officials in the Parliament look at this particular tool in more detail with a view to considering whether a similar facility might be introduced in Scotland.

25. The Scottish Parliament’s own Education Service is not dissimilar to that in Western Australia. The Scottish Parliament’s Education and Community Partnerships team is made up of 15 posts (five full-time and ten part-time). The inward programme is run by a Manager, and sessions are delivered by a pool of five part-time Education Officers. The outreach programme is run by a Manager also, and delivered by three, part-time Education Officers who are home based across Scotland. The Managers are supported by an Administrator and a Learning Resources Officer co-ordinates production of educational publications in all media. As well as the Head of Office, the rest of the team is comprised of the Gaelic Development Officer post (to deliver our five year Gaelic Language Plan), and the Community Partnerships Manager, who delivers our programmes and events for adult / informal education audiences, especially community groups. The Scottish Parliament inward programme saw a 97% increase in 2008/09 over the previous academic year, with the number of young people taking part rising from 5,749 to 11,320. The outreach programme saw a 29% increase, rising from 5,997 to 7,749.

Parliamentary Issues

26. During the course of meetings with Members of both the State and Federal Parliaments a number of parliamentary issues were discussed. These
included: the management of question time in the various Parliamentary Chambers; the effective provision of services to Members; the powers of parliamentary committees; voter turn out and funding mechanisms. For example, delegation members learned that in Western Australia, Committees have the power to call for documents and witnesses on all matters affecting the State regardless of whether they relate to issues which are under Federal or State control. The Scottish Parliament’s Public Petitions Committee was also the subject of much discussion, with the House of Representatives recently having adopted the Scottish system. Parliamentarians in Western Australia also expressed strong interest in the work of the Petitions Committee and the delegation suggests that the Petitions Committee clerk might wish to continue to follow up on this interest at official level.

27. Since the delegation returned officials from the Parliament of Western Australia have been in touch to ask about the Scottish Parliament’s capacity to download or stream footage of sittings and committee hearings. The Scottish Parliament has gained a reputation for leading the way in relation to broadcasting and using IT to enhance parliamentary work and the UK and International Relations Office has already provided contact details on the relevant Scottish Parliament officials.

Commonwealth Games

28. The delegation met with parliamentarians and a senior official who had been a member of the Commonwealth Games Group tasked with planning and delivering the Games. They discussed the benefits Melbourne gained through hosting the Games in 2006. Subsequent surveys had indicated that 60% of Victorians felt they had benefited from the Games and it was clear from those the delegation met that community involvement had been a key element of ensuring its success.

29. Members noted that tickets to the Games had been reasonably priced, those attending had been allowed to bring their own food and drinks to events and a significant level of free public transport had been provided. The delegation felt that this policy should be highlighted given that potentially the organisers had to weigh up the loss of revenue from food and beverage franchises against the risk that there may not have been a high take up of tickets. The approach taken had worked however and ensured a high take up of tickets and a family friendly atmosphere.

30. In addition to the sporting events, there had been a substantial programme of cultural events surrounding the Games. Over 2,500 world-class performing artists from across Australia and the Commonwealth performed in Melbourne for the duration of the Games as part of the largest free cultural festival ever held in Australia. Cultural events included concerts, a circus, street performers, a showcase of Victoria’s indigenous culture and exhibitions and
dance from around the Commonwealth. The cultural festival was funded by the Australian Government and the Victorian Government with local communities supporting some of the events.

31. The planning committee were keen not only to involve the local community but to spread benefits across the region and also to the wider Commonwealth. Subsequent surveys revealed that there was a real sense of re-connection between people in Melbourne and the region who were united by renewed pride and confidence inspired by the event.

32. The delegation learned that the local community benefited from the creation of 136,000 new jobs and 117,000 tourists who visited during the Commonwealth Games. Members also noted that the Games had left a lasting legacy in some unexpected ways. For example, although Melbourne was already rich in sporting facilities and infrastructure and enjoyed an international reputation as having a strong sporting tradition, the Games had helped establish the main stadium - the MCG - as one of the world's most famous cricket venues. As the largest stadium in Australia the MCG regularly hosted major sporting events and rock concerts. The 2006 event also provided for the building of a new velodrome and indoor bowls centre.

33. As well as economic and sporting legacies, the Commonwealth Games left Melbourne with environmental and social legacies. Environmental improvements included early planning for a carbon neutral event. Benefits included the planting of 1 million new trees, new benchmarks for litter and waste management and an increase in the provision, and use, of public transport. The social legacy has included increased sports participation, volunteering and has left Victorians with a greater sense of cultural understanding and connectedness at community, State and Commonwealth levels and also with the wider world.

34. Overall the main message the delegation received from these conversations is that by hosting the Commonwealth Games people from a wide area can achieve a stronger sense that more can be achieved together and that those responsible for delivering the Games must work out in advance what legacy they want from the Games and build these factors in at an early stage of planning. It was also noted that sometimes events that cost the least to organise were often the most enjoyed, particularly by local people.

Climate Change

35. Ross Finnie MSP had a number of additional meetings on the issue of climate change and a copy of his report is attached at Annex B.
Domestic Violence & Rural Health

36. Rhoda Grant MSP had a number of additional meetings on the issues of domestic violence and rural health and a copy of her report is attached at Annex C.

MS Sufferers

37. Sandra White MSP had a number of additional meetings on the issue of Multiple Sclerosis and a copy of her report is attached at Annex D.

Cultural affairs

38. Ted Brocklebank MSP had a number of additional meetings on cultural issues and a copy of his report is attached at Annex E.

Objective 2

To establish links with the New Zealand Parliament and explore how both Parliaments might collaborate in future.

39. The delegation started their programme in New Zealand with a briefing from the British High Commissioner, George Fergusson. The High Commissioner set out the current political, economic and social policy context and gave a summary of the topical issues dominating the news agenda. The delegation noted that, like Australia, the New Zealand economy had not suffered to the same extent as that of the USA or western European countries, having never technically entered recession.

40. The delegation then went on to begin the programme organised by the New Zealand Parliament which was both comprehensive and well constructed. The meetings and events enabled the delegation to meet a very wide range of New Zealand parliamentarians, including the Speaker and Deputy Speaker, Government and opposition party whips, the Minister for Youth Affairs, the Minister of Māori Affairs, Members of the Parliament’s Social Services Committee, a number of former Ministers and a large cross section of MPs from the various parties represented in the Parliament.

41. The discussions again focused around the objectives of the visit and covered the following topics:

- *The Scottish Parliament’s experience of devolution;*
- *Public Participation;*
- *Engaging youth with the institution of Parliament and other initiatives to stimulate interest in democracy amongst young people.*
- *Festival of Politics;*
• Parliamentary Issues
• Climate Change
• Domestic Violence policy
• How Scots immigrants shaped and influenced culture

42. Further information on the discussions is set out below.

Youth Engagement

43. The delegation received a presentation on the operation of the New Zealand Youth Parliament from senior officials from the Ministry of Youth Development in Wellington. The New Zealand Youth Parliament has been running since 1994 and is funded and run primarily by the Ministry although the Parliamentary Services (mainly though the Office of the Clerk) also provides support through staff time and facilities. Each of the 122 Members of the New Zealand Parliament is responsible for selecting a Member of the Youth Parliament (MYP) and Members do this through various means – some run writing competitions or local elections for example, while others approach their local schools on a rotational basis. Members have around 2 months to select their MYP and Ministry staff provide Members with assistance in this regard.

44. Once selected, MYPs are appointed for a 3 year term which is in line with the length of the Parliamentary term in NZ. Young people of around 16-18 years of age are generally targeted, as the Ministry explained they were keen to involve those who would shortly be voting for the first time (voting age in New Zealand is 18 years). During the most recent selection process, officials explained there had been a major emphasis on diversity to ensure that young people from a wide range of backgrounds came forward.

45. Over the course of the 3 year appointment, the Government uses the network of MYPs as conduits into local youth groups and as a sounding board on consultations and policy proposals likely to affect young people. Around half way through their term, MYPs are also invited to attend a 2 day event at the New Zealand Parliament. During the course of this event, MYPs experience the whole range of Parliamentary life – they participate in a Question Time chaired by the Speaker or Deputy Speaker and they select a topic or proposal for legislation and take that proposal through the various legislative stages both in Committee and in the Chamber. Before MYPs attend this session, regional teams work with them to identify areas for debate and to explain the procedures and programme. The Government provides NZ$110,000 (approx £50,000) in funding for the 2 day event and this covers the full costs including travel, accommodation and meal costs for all MYPs. Ministry officials indicated that feedback – both from young people and parliamentarians – was very positive and that the 2 day event in Parliament generated a substantial amount of positive media coverage.
46. The delegation was impressed by the model operating in New Zealand. In particular, Members liked the ways in which MYPs were involved in ongoing consultations and policy development and the nature of their engagement with the Parliament. The delegation noted that funding of the Youth Parliament was a matter for the Scottish Government. However members suggested that Scottish Parliament officials might consider whether lessons could be learned from the New Zealand model in relation to the format of the Scottish Parliament’s engagement with the Scottish Youth Parliament.

47. During the visit the delegation also learned of the Aotearoa Youth Voices initiative. Launched in 2005 by the Ministry of Youth Development its purpose is to showcase youth participation projects. It is aimed at young people aged between 12 and 24, and has become, in effect, a recognised brand. The successful branding of this initiative is in itself quite remarkable. The idea is that these projects provide many different ways in which to encourage youth participation in decision-making. Initiatives include a dedicated website inviting submissions, contributions to blogs and text messages on a variety of issues. The website also acts as an information sharing site for agencies involved in youth development to advertise funding and applications to take part in events approved by the Ministry of Youth. These projects not only encourage participation from young people, they allow the government the means to tap into a database for consultation where input from young people is required to inform particular policy areas.

48. The delegation also received a presentation on the New Zealand Parliament Education Service. Essentially this is a very small operation with only 2 full-time staff whose main focus is on inward visits. However, despite the small number of staff involved, the Parliament is able to offer an inward programme to around 15,000 children per year. The Parliament offers a standard programme which can be adapted to suit children of primary school age right through to students in tertiary education. The programme runs 9am-5pm, Monday to Friday, is around 90 minutes long and includes a short building tour (and viewing of proceedings during business days). This is followed by an opportunity for participants to meet their local MPs (if available) and to learn more about the Parliament in a classroom setting. Like those Parliaments the delegation visited in Australia, the classroom itself is set up as a “mock” debating Chamber and staff feel participants respond well to this. The classroom also has an interactive whiteboard facility.

49. In addition to this the Parliament offers a “role play programme” specifically targeted at 10-12 year olds. This session is around 2 hours long and involves the children taking on various parliamentary roles including Speaker, Prime Minister, Opposition Leader etc. During the session, children debate an imaginary bill and take it through the third reading (final) Parliamentary stage. Some of the role play is pre-scripted but there is flexibility for the children to
prepare their own speeches and to ad lib. In a similar vein, the Parliament prepared a role play for children in the run up to the last General Election in which participants divided into party groups, prepared campaigns and which took the children through the use of actual voting papers. This proved popular and is still running. Feedback on the quality of the programmes and the service provided to schools is gathered each year via the use of a quality service survey which is sent to those teachers who have attended the programme.

50. The service also provides a range of online material for teachers (in English and Māori) which, among other things, allows children to draft their own bill. Parliament staff, in conjunction with a focus group of teachers, are currently reviewing the online materials and are also looking at the possibility of creating a blog facility on the site for teachers.

51. Given the size of New Zealand (its land mass is similar to that of the UK) and the dispersed nature of the population (which is around 4.3 million), children visiting the Parliament tend to be from local areas or from those areas within a reasonably short travelling distance to Wellington. The Parliament offers no travel subsidy to schools so, to reach those living further away, the Parliament is looking to increase its outreach facility by bringing in teachers from more remote areas and training them so they can deliver elements of the Parliament programme in their local areas.

52. The delegation was extremely impressed by the ability of the facility to deliver materials and programmes to such a large number of children with very limited resources. Members also noted the parallels with the Scottish Parliament in relation to the geographical challenges and the language issues faced. The delegation undertook to ensure that full copies of all the Scottish Parliament educational materials were sent on to the New Zealand Parliament and recommends this is followed up by contact at official level. Delegation members were also impressed by the mock chamber layout of the classroom facility and recommend that the SPCB give serious consideration to adopting something similar in the classroom facility at Holyrood.

Festival of Politics

53. There was a significant level of interest among both parliamentarians and staff in the more innovative aspects of the Scottish Parliament’s public engagement programme. On Tuesday 20 October, at an event hosted by the New Zealand Parliament’s Deputy Speaker, Lindsay Tisch MP, the Presiding Officer gave a detailed presentation on the Festival of Politics and highlighting the most recent Festival which had taken place over 5 days with 43 events attracting nearly 4,500 people. The Presiding Officer also touched on the World Press Photo exhibition which over the years has accompanied the Festival and which last year attracted nearly 60,000 visitors to the Parliament.
Following the presentation, which was attended by a number of staff from the New Zealand Parliament as well as some MPs, a lengthy question and answer session took place. The Festival of Politics format was also touched upon at a number of other meetings during the course of the programme, with several MPs indicating a wish to look at whether the initiative could be replicated in their own legislature.

54. Initially, it is **recommended** that follow up contact be made at official level between the two Parliaments to discuss whether and how the New Zealand Parliament might want to look further at the Festival model. Following that, it is **recommended** that officials consider the possibility of involving a representative(s) from the New Zealand Parliament in a future Festival. Presentations on the influence of Scots in the development of New Zealand or on their experience of minority/coalition government would certainly be of interest to many in Scotland and would also offer the New Zealand Parliament an opportunity to see the Festival in action. Early exploration of these ideas may allow the New Zealand Parliament to time any future planned visit to Scotland to co-incide with the Festival period.

**Public Petitions**

55. On 20 October former member of the Public Petitions Committee, Rhoda Grant MSP, gave a presentation to staff from the Parliament’s Table Office on the work of the Public Petitions Committee. In the discussion which followed it became clear that the New Zealand Parliament’s petitions system is quite different to that operating in Scotland. In New Zealand, petitions are dealt with by individual subject committees (there is no dedicated Petitions Committee) and petitions often raise issues of a personal or very local nature which, in Scotland, would likely be treated as constituency casework. There was a feeling among some New Zealand Members and staff that petitions were viewed as the court of last resort. As there is no limit on the length of time a Committee can take to deal with a petition, busy committees often take many months to consider them and this has led to frustration on the part of the petitioners. There was also no facility in New Zealand to submit petitions electronically.

56. The Table Office clerks were particularly interested in the e-petitioning system and in the checks and balances which existed in Scotland to ensure that petitions which were not competent did not take up Committee time and resources. Given the level of interest shown in the Scottish model, it is **recommended** that official level contact is made to follow up these initial discussions.
Parliamentary Issues

57. Shortly before the delegation departed from Scotland, the Presiding Officer received confirmation that a Scotland New Zealand Friendship Group had been established within the New Zealand Parliament. This is the first time such a group had been created and, although only recently established, it had already become the second largest such group in the New Zealand Parliament with 24 members attending its inaugural meeting. The establishment of the Friendship Group – which has a similar status to a Cross Party Group within the Scottish Parliament – reflects the strength of the historical links between the two countries and the current level of interest in Scotland and the Scottish Parliament. The delegation was able to meet with most of the members of the Friendship Group who indicated they were keen look at ways of building on the initial contacts made. The delegation agreed this Group could provide a helpful link going forward and recommends that the Executive Committee of CPA Scotland Branch consider exploring the possibility of setting up a Cross Party Group on New Zealand as was the case with Malawi in 2005 or alternatively consider ensuring that New Zealand be considered a long term priority for CPA Scotland Branch in the future.

58. The delegation met twice with the Speaker, Dr the Hon Lockwood Smith MP. The Presiding Officer also had an additional meeting with the Speaker over the course of the week. During these meetings, a range of topics were covered including: systems of election; timetabling of Parliamentary Business; rules surrounding urgent debates in Parliament; arrangements for the support and operation of Parliament; Members expenses; points of order, and the length of speaking times in debates. On this final point, the New Zealand Parliament provided delegation members with a copy of their guidance on speaking times. It was noted that the speaking time for backbenchers in standard debates in New Zealand was 10 minutes; Party Leaders and spokespeople were given the same speaking time in debates as backbench members and Ministers did not normally have a closing speech at the conclusion of a debate.

59. At the request of the New Zealand Parliament the delegation also met with the Parliament’s head of broadcasting. New Zealand Parliament television has just reached its second year so has been in operation for a much shorter period than its Holyrood equivalent. Staff explained that a Parliament channel had recently been added to the list of Freeview stations in New Zealand and, given most people have free to air channels, the potential audience had grown considerably. New Zealand Parliament staff were currently looking at extending their coverage to include Parliamentary Committees and were keen to learn from Scottish experience in this particular field. Following a general discussion on the Scottish Parliament’s rules on the broadcasting of proceedings and issues surrounding defamation and parliamentary privilege, the delegation agreed to ensure that the Scottish Parliament’s Head of
Broadcasting made contact with her New Zealand equivalent to discuss a number of technical issues in more detail.

60. The delegation noted that a significant amount of follow up contact at official level between the staff of the Scottish and New Zealand Parliaments had been sought. This was a very positive step forward in terms of developing relations between the legislatures and the delegation recommended that this contact be tracked in some way to ensure there was some co-ordination and record of the work taken forward.

**Objective 3**

*To meet with parliamentarians to learn more from the Australian and New Zealand experience about the challenges and solutions presented by minority and coalition governments.*

61. The Parliaments in both Australia and New Zealand have significantly more experience in the handling of coalition and minority government. The programme included a number of opportunities for the delegation to discuss these areas with their fellow parliamentarians who were extremely open and helpful. As a result, delegation members returned with a much clearer understanding about how democracy, minority government and coalition government worked elsewhere.

**Australia**

62. In Western Australia it was noted that political parties begin negotiating coalitions around 6 months before the date of the election and written agreement on coalition is nearly always drafted pre-election. As a result the public is usually aware, before voting begins, which parties are prepared to work together post election and on which policy areas. In some instances these pre-election negotiations can also result in parties agreeing not to strongly contest certain seats. There was no feeling among the Members the delegation met that this type of activity compromised their independence or compromised their parties’ ability to campaign effectively during the election period. It was apparently accepted by the public that political parties would need to work together and form coalitions and the public were keen to know, prior to the election, who each party would be prepared to work with.

63. In addition to the negotiation of formal coalition agreements, parties in Australia also adopt a range of more flexible measures in order to gather support. For instance, larger parties may sign what is known as a “confidence and supply” agreement with one or more smaller parties. This secures votes from the smaller party/parties on all budget matters and on all votes on the appointment of Ministers thus ensuring that any minority government is always able both to pass its annual budget and see off any
vote of confidence in its Ministers. Although a confidence and supply agreement with just one smaller party would secure a majority, larger parties will sometimes agree this arrangement with more than one smaller party to further strengthen their position.

64. A more flexible approach has also been adopted in relation to collective responsibility. For instance, not all coalitions will include the offer of a Ministerial post for the smaller party. And, for those that do, it is not uncommon for coalition partners who accept Ministerial positions to vote against the Government in certain policy areas provided prior agreement has been obtained.

New Zealand

65. The delegation found that similar minority and coalition arrangements existed in New Zealand. As in Australia, parties would frequently discuss possible agreements in advance of the election and in some cases, make public statements on their intentions. The “confidence and supply” arrangement was one which had been used on many occasions in New Zealand too. Again, New Zealand Parliamentarians had experimented with more flexible arrangements around collective responsibility, including having coalition partners as Ministers inside and outside of Cabinet and allowing, where agreed, coalition partner Ministers to vote against the Government on certain policy issues. The current New Zealand Government was a minority Government but had entered into what many termed as “support agreements” with two of the smaller parties – the Māori party and the ACT party. These support agreements guaranteed smaller party support on matters of confidence and supply but in some instances went further to give support on specific policy areas.

Objective 4

To introduce MSPs to different methods used in New Zealand to preserve a traditional language.

66. The delegation had very useful meetings with: the Māori Language Commission; the Ministry of Māori Development; the Ministry of Education and the Māori Broadcasting Funding Agency. At these meetings, the various agencies described their roles and how they had worked together to promote the Māori Language and expand the number of speakers from a low of around 30,000 to a now estimated 150,000.

67. The Ministry of Māori Development has a remit to provide policy advice on Māori issues; monitor the performance of other government departments in relation to Māori service delivery and to co-ordinate work in this area across the public service. The first Māori Language Strategy was published by the
Ministry in 1998 and it was revised in 2003. The strategy is currently under review but, when published, is likely to recommend a renewed focus on education, broadcasting, community language development and support for families.

68. The Ministry of Education has teams working on the development of the language. Their specific focus is on ensuring the quality of Māori language teaching, supporting the use of Māori in families, and providing opportunities for non-Māoris to learn the language. Evidence had shown that investing in the early education of young children in the language had been very beneficial. This had not always been easy however as funding and a lack of experienced Māori language teachers had proved difficult hurdles. In addition to addressing the teacher supply problem, the Ministry were also further developing the Māori language curriculum in schools.

69. In 1993, the New Zealand Government established the Māori Language Broadcasting Agency. Agency representatives outlined their remit which is to promote Māori language and culture by allocating funds for broadcasting and the production of programme for broadcast. The Agency – which has a staff of 11 - provides $16million (over £7m) in direct funding to Māori Language television and operates a contestable fund of $25million (over £11m) which independent producers can bid against.

70. The delegation noted the similarity of the issues faced in relation to the Māori and Gaelic languages - the small base of those speaking the languages (currently around 60,000 Gaelic speakers as against a low of 30,000 Māori speakers), the lack of young people taking up the languages, the geographical spread (with Gaelic spoken mainly in the north West and Māori predominantly confined to the north island) and the pressures of funding. It is worth highlighting however that in Scotland the efforts to protect, promote and encourage the Gaelic language is borne out of a desire to preserve the traditional language for cultural reasons whereas in New Zealand, Māoris are the indigenous people.

71. The delegation heard that, as part of the strategy to expand the use of Māori, a Māori Language Day was introduced in 1975. Over the years this initiative has expanded into Māori Language Week and is now a major event on the cultural calendar. During the course of the week public bodies, arts and cultural groups, major companies, such as Air New Zealand, and the media promote the use of Māori through various means. The delegation was impressed by the growth and impact of this initiative and specifically by its ability to reach young people and to promote the incorporation of Māori words into everyday use by non-Māori speakers. The delegation noted that the Scottish Parliament had, for the first time in 2009, organised some modest events around a Gaelic Language Day and recommends that, building on this initial work, officials look into the feasibility of establishing an annual
Gaelic Language Day at the Scottish Parliament. If successful, this initiative could grow over the years and could provide a good additional strand to the Parliament’s next Gaelic Language Strategy to be published in 2013.

72. In 2004, the Māori Language Commission established the Māori Language Awards as a way of celebrating Māori Language Week. These Awards recognise the efforts of community organisations, schools, businesses, the media and government bodies in promoting the use of Māori during Māori Language Week. Each year the awards look at the ways groups within these categories have used the language during the week and the award winners are announced on Māori Language Day (September 14). Although the Scottish Parliament itself does not organise awards ceremonies, the delegation felt the initiative was worthy of mention and is an idea that could be considered by other agencies.

73. Delegation members also suggest that, in pursuing the possibility of New Zealand Parliamentary involvement in a future Festival of Politics event, consideration should also be given to involving a Member(s) from the Māori party who could discuss the preservation of the Māori language and the parallels with Gaelic.

**Objective 5**

*Promote the Scottish Parliament, Scottish people and Scotland to the wider world during the 10th anniversary year of devolution.*

74. During the course of the programme, the delegation had a number of opportunities to meet and speak to a cross section of the Scottish Diaspora living in Australia, New Zealand. The delegation also completed a university lecture tour over the period of the programme involving the following organisations:

- University of Western Australia, Perth
- University of Melbourne
- Australian National University, Canberra
- University of Otago, Dunedin

75. In each case the Presiding Officer/delegation spoke on the Scottish Parliament and 10 years of devolution and took questions on, for example, politics and celtic studies from audiences that included students, academics and the general public.

76. In addition, the delegation participated in a round table discussion session organised by the British High Commission in conjunction with the University of Victoria in Wellington. The session focused on the topics of parliamentary engagement and voting systems, with a particular focus on the comparison
between the Scottish system of election and the MMP system used in New Zealand. This session was attended by a number of academics, New Zealand MPs, young people and members of media.

77. It was clear to the delegation from these various visits and events that there was a significant amount of interest in the Scottish Parliament and in how devolution was developing in Scotland.

78. During discussions with staff and students from the Australian National University, the possibility of the creation of some form of internship programme at the Scottish Parliament was raised. It was not clear from the initial discussions what form such a programme might take. However, the delegation was attracted to this proposal in principle and recommends that Scottish Parliamentary officials take forward further discussion with the University’s Pro Vice-Chancellor of Education who also attended the round table.

79. As part of the visit to the south island of New Zealand, the delegation visited the Otago Settlers Museum in Dunedin. This Museum, which is about to undergo a major extension and refurbishment programme, houses an extensive collection of photographs, archives and manuscripts relating to the early settlers in New Zealand, many of which travelled from Scotland. Following the completion of its refurbishment in late 2012, the Museum is looking at developing a Scottish themed exhibition and expressed a strong interest in working with the Scottish Parliament on this. Follow up contact at official level is currently taking place and the delegation recommends that, where possible, the Parliament should provide support and assistance to the Museum in taking this initiative forward.

80. During the visit, delegation members had a number of discussions, particularly in New Zealand, around the Diaspora. It was noted that New Zealand had acquired a good reputation for attracting back her Diaspora and members were interested in how this had been achieved. New Zealand is a migrant nation and both the economy and society depends on migration. Currently around 700,000 New Zealand citizens (or one in four) were born overseas. Research has shown that if a citizen is out of the country for more than 2 years it is less likely that they will return so a significant amount of the New Zealand Government’s efforts focus on staying in touch with their Diaspora, especially those who have only been out of the country for a reasonably short period of time.

81. The delegation is aware that the Scottish Government has an interest in how New Zealand engages with her Diaspora and therefore recommends that officials in the Scottish Parliament share information and pass on details of the relevant New Zealand contacts to Scottish Government officials.
While in Australia the delegation met with members of the Scottish Australian Heritage Society at the home of Malcolm Broun, President of the Sydney Society for Scottish History. Politicians, past and present, from New South Wales were also present and the delegation discussed Scottish culture, the shortage of Gaelic teachers in New South Wales, accessibility issues with BBC Scotland programmes, trade links between Scotland and Australia as well as a host of topics of mutual interest. Members of the delegation **undertook** to feed back views and pass on contact details to relevant organisations in Scotland.

The delegation noted that on 1 January 2010 New South Wales would be marking the 200th anniversary of Lachlan Macquarie being sworn in as Governor. Lachlan Macquarie is little known outside Australia and, despite being a very influential Scot, very few people in Scotland will have heard of him. Governor Macquarie is known as the Father of Australia and there is little doubt that he and his wife greatly influenced and shaped Australia and particularly the State of New South Wales. Born on Ulva off the west coast of Scotland in 1762, he was appointed Governor of New South Wales in 1810 where he served until 1821. Governor Macquarie is also credited with laying the foundations of the Australian financial services system and is acknowledged by Australians as a major influence on the transition of New South Wales as a penal colony to a free settlement.

The Lachlan Macquarie bicentenary will be celebrated in New South Wales throughout the course of 2010. The delegation **recommends** that Parliament officials draw this anniversary to the attention of the Government given the potential opportunities to promote Scotland in New South Wales during this landmark year.

Finally, the Presiding Officer and delegation undertook a number of media opportunities while in Australia and New Zealand. This included a lengthy interview on the flagship New Zealand political show *Sunday morning with Chris Laidlaw*; an interview on New Zealand’s Channel 9 television news; an article in Australian Magazine, *The Listening Post*; a feature in the *Otago Daily News* and various university magazine interviews.

**Conclusion**

The delegation expresses thanks to the Parliament of Australia, the Parliament of New Zealand and the New Zealand Government for their invitations and for providing comprehensive, informative and interesting programmes. The delegation also records their thanks to their fellow parliamentarians who were very generous with their time and very open in sharing their knowledge and experiences. Special thanks go to the staff of the CPA branch secretariats and the inter-parliamentary staff who accompanied the delegation during the visit programmes. The delegation
acknowledges the assistance from countless other parliamentary officials and individuals in Scotland, Australia and New Zealand involved with the arrangements including the honorary consuls for Australia and New Zealand and the Diaspora groups and associations in both countries. Particular thanks are due to the staff in the British High Commissions and British Consulates in both Australia and New Zealand for their support before and during the visit. The delegation also acknowledge with appreciation and gratitude, the hospitality received throughout the visit from various organisations.

87. This particular visit programme entailed travelling across vast distances over a 2 week period. Nevertheless the delegation was able to attend over 80 meetings and events which included visits to 4 universities to deliver lectures and participate in round table discussions with students and academics. In total the delegation had the opportunity to meet with around 80 parliamentarians and took part in a number of media interviews which were either published or broadcast during the visit. Overall the delegation felt that the visit had been extremely successful and that the objectives had been met. A list of suggested follow up action and recommendations is attached at Annex F.
ANNEX A

Programme for the Presiding Officer and Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) visit to Australia and New Zealand
11 to 24 October 2009

Sunday 11 October

Delegation's programme

9.00am  Depart for Scots Presbyterian Church

10.00am  Arrive at Scots Presbyterian Church
Location: 90 South Terrace, Fremantle

11.30am  Return to Perth

Monday 12 October

Delegation's Programme

9.30am  Lay wreath at The State War Memorial Cenotaph
Venue: Kings Park Cemetery

10.00am  Meeting 1: with the Hon. Barry House, President of the Legislative Council and Mr Malcolm Peacock, Clerk of the Legislative Council
Venue: President’s Suite

10.30am  Meeting 2: with Chairs of Committees and Clerk Assistant
Venue: Legislative Council Committee Office

11.30am  Meeting 3: Briefing on the Public Petitions system in Scotland
Venue: Legislative Council Committee Office, Room 3

12.00pm  Working Lunch hosted by the Hon. Barry House, President of the Legislative Council.
Venue: Centenary Room

Attendees included: Hon. Liz Behjat MLC, Hon. Jock Ferguson MLC, Hon Robin Chapple MLC, Hon Brian Ellis MLC, Adele Farina MLC, Hon Giz Watson MLC and Mr Malcolm Peacock, Clerk of the Legislative Council

2.00pm  Meeting 4: Observe Estimates and Financial Operations Committee
Venue: Legislative Council Committee Office

2.30pm  Meeting 5: Public Engagement
Meeting with Parliamentary Education Officer  
**Venue:** Aboriginal Peoples Room  

3.30pm  
Meeting 6: Minority Governments and coalitions in Western Australian  
Briefing by **Hon. Max Trenorden MLC** – National Party of Australia  
**Venue:** Aboriginal Peoples Room  

4.00pm  
Meeting 7: Commonwealth Grant system - distribution of funding between the states  
Briefing by **Mr Alex Scherini**, Assistant Director, Revenue and Intergovernmental Relations, Dept of Treasury and Finance  
**Venue:** Aboriginal Peoples Room  

6.00pm  
Visit to University of Western Australia Ted Brocklebank MSP to deliver lecture on progress made in the first ten years of the Scottish Parliament followed by a Q&A involving all members of delegation.  
**Location:** 35 Stirling Highway, Crawley  

7.30pm  
Informal meeting with Students: hosted by **Prof Doug McEachern**, Deputy Vice-Chancellor  
**Venue:** Club Room at the University  

7.45pm  
Ross Finnie to address guests on behalf of the delegation  

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**Tuesday 13 October**  

**Presiding Officer Programme**  

10.10am  
Depart Melbourne  

11:00am  
Arrive Adelaide  

11:30am  
Meet with Duncan and his family (one of the children born on 1 July 1999 in Scotland)  
**Location:** Lefevre Peninsula Primary School, Shorney Street, Birkenhead  

1.00  
Tour of school and visit to Duncan’s class / Meeting with **Mr Hannan** (teacher) and classmates  

2.30pm  
Arrive at South Australia Parliament  
**Location:** North Terrace side
Observe Proceedings from the Gallery

3.00pm  Tour of the South Australia Parliament and courtesy call on Speaker Jack Snelling MLA

Courtesy call with Bob Sneath MLC the Speaker of the Legislative Council

6.05pm  Depart Adelaide

7.50pm  Arrive Melbourne

**Delegation's Programme**

8.30am  Delegation visit to Constitution Centre
        Met by Betty O'Rourke, Director
        **Venue:** Harvest Terrace

10.00am  Ted Brocklebank to meet with Professor Geoffrey Bolton, Historian at Murdoch University to discuss the contribution of Scots on how Scots influenced and shaped Western Australia
        **Venue:** Constitution Centre

10.30am  Sandra White to meet with Mr Marcus Stafford CEO and Ms Sue Shapland, General Manager for Member Services. Meeting also arranged with members of the WA MS Society followed by a tour of the facility.
        **Venue:** MS Society of Western Australia (Inc), 29 Parkhill Way

10.30am  Ross Finnie to meet with Dr Colin Yates, Principal Research Scientist Manager, Biodiversity and Climate Change Unit Science Division, Department of Environment and Conservation
        **Venue:** Department of Environment and Conservation
        17 Dick Perry Avenue, Technology Park, Western Precinct, Kensington

10.30am  Rhoda Grant to meet Judith Chernysh, Assistant Director Family and Domestic Violence Unit, Department for Child Protection to discuss areas of mutual interest in relation to WA policies about domestic violence against women and families. Will meet government representatives and representatives from the Women's Council for Domestic and Family Violence.

1.00pm  Rhoda Grant to meet with Mr Kim Snowball, CEO, WA Country Health service to discuss how WA handles health delivery in sparsely populated areas.
        **Venue:** 189 Wellington Street, Perth
5.05pm Depart Perth

11.30pm Arrive at Tullamarine Airport, Melbourne Terminal 1

Wednesday 14 October

9.00am Meeting with the Consul General, Mr Stuart William Gill

10.30am Visit to University of Melbourne
Round table discussion: 10 Years of the Scottish Parliament – the evolution of devolution
Speech: Presiding Officer introductory speech

12.30pm Working lunch at University

3.00pm Meet with Mr Harry Jenkins MP, Speaker of the House of Representatives

5.30pm Dinner hosted by the Speaker of the House of Representatives
Attended by Anna Burke Deputy Speaker, Jason Wood MP

Thursday 15 October

9.00am Ross Finnie to meet Mr Rupert Posner, Director of Australia Climate Group
Location: Parliament of Victoria, Spring and Bourke Streets

9.00am Roundtable discussion with Federal Members of the Australian Parliament
Subject: 10 Years of the Scottish Parliament – the evolution of devolution covering:

- Institutional and business management - roles of the SCPB and Bureau
- Comparison of education/outreach services
- Parliamentary engagement more generally
- Experiences of minority and coalition government

Location: Council Committee Room
Attendees: Chair is Ms Anna Burke MP, Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives and Fran Bailey MP, Hon David Hawker MP, Mr Kelvin Thomson MP, Ms Maria Vamvakinou MP
Delegation – wash-up session on meetings with Australian Parliamentarians while in Melbourne

12.00pm Observe proceedings in the House of Assembly

12.25pm Escorted to Legislative Council Chamber to observe Question Time

Working lunch co-hosted by the President of the Legislative Council and the Speaker of the House of Assembly other guests included Bruce Atkinson MP, Deputy Speaker of the Legislative Council and Members from both Houses

1.45pm Sign visitor books and proceed to Legislative Assembly Chamber to observe Question Time

2.00pm Observe Question Time in the Legislative Assembly

2.30pm Presiding Officer visit to Scotch College

3.15pm Delegation meeting with senior officials responsible for strategic planning for the Commonwealth Games 1986

Location: Club Room

5.45pm Dinner hosted by Ms Jenny Lindell MP, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Victoria. Other attendees included Ray Purdey, Clerk of Parliament.

Friday 16 October

Full delegation travels to Canberra in the morning

8.25am Depart Melbourne for Canberra

9.30am Arrive Canberra airport

10.15am Arrive Parliament House main entrance

10.30am Presiding Officer to meet Senator the Hon John Hogg, President of the Senate and Senator Alan Ferguson, Deputy President of the Senate

Venue: President’s Suite

10.30am Delegation briefing from members of the Parliamentary Education Office

Venue: Committee Room 1R2
11.15am  Meet with the Hon Laurie Ferguson MP
Parliamentary Secretary for Multicultural Affairs & Settlement Services
Venue: Committee Room 1R2

12.15pm  Delegation luncheon hosted by the President of the Senate and in attendance Senator Alan Ferguson, and Hon Laurie Ferguson

2.30pm  Visit to Australian National University
Presiding Officer Lecture, Q&A and roundtable discussion: 10 Years of the Scottish Parliament – the evolution of devolution
Location: Lennox Cross/Liversidge Street, front of National Europe Centre

- with Professor Toni Makkai, Director, National Europe Centre, Research School of Humanities, British History and Politics
- Professor Paul Pickering, Dean of College of Arts and Social Sciences
- Dr Ben Wellings, Convenor of European Studies, School of Social Sciences, European Politics
- Dr Ruth Martin, Head of Musicology, School of Music, Gaelic music
- Dr Alex Cook, School of Sciences, British and European History
- Mr Jonathan Davies, Research School of Humanities, Gaelic literature (Irish)

4.15pm  Delegation meeting with the Acting High Commissioner

5.30pm  Reception at the Burns Club, hosted by the President and Board of Directors of the Canberra Highland Society and Burns Club
Venue: 8 Kett Street, Cambah

Saturday 17 October

Presiding Officer’s programme

6.45am  Depart Canberra

3.00pm  Arrive Wellington

Delegation’s programme

9.50am  Depart Canberra for Sydney

10.40pm  Arrive Sydney
2.30pm  Meeting with Scottish Australian Heritage Society  
Hosted by Malcolm Broun President Sydney Society for Scottish History  
**Location:** Greenwich

**Sunday 18 October**

**Delegation’s Programme**

*Delegation travels to Wellington*

6.45am  Depart Sydney

3.00pm  Arrive Wellington Airport

6.00pm  Delegation dinner

**Monday 19 October**

8.00am  Breakfast briefing with British High Commissioner and officials

9.00am  Visit briefing with New Zealand Officials

10.15am  Roundtable meeting with Maori Language Commission, Te Mangai Paho, Ministry of Education and Te Puni Kokiri  
**Location:** Level 14, Investment Centre, Corner Featherstone and Ballance Streets

**Meet with:**
Erima Henare, Chair of the Commission, Te Taura Whiri i te Reo Māori
Iritana Tāwhiwhirangi, Commissioner, Te Taura Whiri i te Reo Māori
Board Member of Te Kohanga Reo Trust
Huhana Rokx, Chief Executive Officer, Te Taura Whiri i te Reo Māori
Sharon Armstrong, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Te Taura Whiri i te Reo Māori
John Bishara, Chief Executive Officer, Te Māngai Pāho
Thomas Hood, Corporate Services Manager, Te Māngai Pāho
Kararaina Cribb, Manager Māori Language in Education, Ministry of Education
Tipene Chrisp, Director Policy, Te Puni Kōkiri
Kiritina Johnstone, Manager Māori Medium Outcomes, Ministry of Education

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>10.15am</td>
<td>Whakatau/Welcome</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.40am</td>
<td>Introduction by Chair of Te Taura Whiri I te Reo Maori</td>
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<td>10.50am</td>
<td>Te Puni Kokiri</td>
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<td>11.00am</td>
<td>Ministry of Education</td>
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<td>11.10am</td>
<td>Te Mangai Paho</td>
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<td>11.20am</td>
<td>Te Taura Whiri I te Reo Maori</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.30am</td>
<td>Opportunity for further discussions and or questions</td>
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<tr>
<td>12.00pm</td>
<td>Working Lunch</td>
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<td>Location:</td>
<td>St John’s, 5 Cable Street</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.20pm</td>
<td>Guided tour of Te Papa, including exhibition 'The Scots'</td>
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<td>Met by Susan Superville, Community Relations Manager</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.15pm</td>
<td>Meeting with Ministry of Youth Development</td>
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<td>Location:</td>
<td>Level 1, West Block, Charles Fergusson Building, Bowen Street</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Meet with: Lorraine Gittings, Manager Youth Engagement</strong></td>
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<td>5.30 pm</td>
<td>Reception involving MPs and Scottish Diaspora hosted by His Excellency Mr George Fergusson,</td>
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<td>- 7.00pm</td>
<td>British High Commissioner</td>
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<td>Location:</td>
<td>Homewood Karori</td>
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**Tuesday 20 October**

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<tr>
<td>9.25am</td>
<td>Arrive at Parliament</td>
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<tr>
<td>Location:</td>
<td>Main steps and then proceed to the Speaker’s Suite,</td>
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<td>Level 1, Parliament House</td>
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<tr>
<td>9.30am</td>
<td>Call on the <strong>Honourable Dr Lockwood Smith</strong>, Speaker of the</td>
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<td>House of Representatives (Presiding Officer only)</td>
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<td>09.30am</td>
<td>Delegation meeting with Table Office regarding public petitions</td>
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<td>Whole delegation courtesy call and tour of the Chamber</td>
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11:00am  Meeting with Immigration New Zealand, Department of Labour  
**Venue:** Level 4, Unisys House, 56 The Terrace  

**Meet with:** Andrew Annakin, Deputy Secretary (Workforce) and Head of Immigration New Zealand  
Stephen Dunstan, Group Manager, Policy  
Steve Cantlon, Group Manager, Service Delivery  
Jan Clark, Group Manager, Service International  
Glenys Robinson, Group Manager, Border Security  
Arron Baker, Group Manager, Service Design  
Frances Broatch, Acting Group Manager, Strategic Support  
Nerissa Wallace, Strategic Support Advisor  
Suzanne Turnwald, Manager, International Engagement  

12.30pm  Working lunch with founding members of the NZ-Scotland Parliamentary Friendship Group, including Mr Chris Auchinvole MP, Sue Kedgley MP and Michael Woodhouse MP  
**Venue:** Parliament, Members Only Dining Room  

2.00pm  Observe Question Time  

2.45pm  Tour of Parliament  

3.30pm  Meeting with Carol Rankin, Senior Parliamentary Officer (Broadcasting) and visit Parliamentary Television  

6.15pm  Festival of Politics presentation and Q&A  
**Location:** Parliament buildings  

**Wednesday 21 October**  

8.30am  Time for updates on Parliamentary and constituency business  

10.30am  Programme of individual meetings for delegation  

Presiding Officer to meet Speaker and the Clerk of House of Representatives  

Ted Brocklebank – Creative New Zealand (2.04EW)  
**Meet with:** Haniko Te Kurapa  
Senior Maori Arts Adviser  

Ross Finnie – Ministry for the Environment (2.15PH)  
**Meet with:** Brett Longley, International Relations and Glen May, Climate Change Division
Rhoda Grant – Taskforce for Action on Violence within Families, Ministry of Social Development (G055PH)
Meet with: Shenagh Gleisner, Deputy Chair
Kathy Puketapu, Family Violence Secretariat

Sandra White – Multiple Sclerosis Society (2.03EW)
Meet with: Rosie Gallagher, Director

11.45am  Attend Social Services Select Committee meeting other attendees included Katrina Shanks MP, Chair and Hekia Parata, Deputy Chair

12.30pm  Working lunch/roundtable on MMP with Members of minority parties within Parliament

1.45pm  Meeting with Miranda Thompson, Education Co-ordinator, Visitor and Support Services

3.00pm  British High Commission: MMP and Youth Engagement round table discussion attendees included: George Fergusson, Chair, British High Commissioner, Colin James, Commentator, Jonathon Boston, Chris Ichbaum, Terry Stokes, School of Government representatives, Fiona Barker, Hilary Pearce, Stephen Levine, John Leslie, Political Science and International Relations, Polly Higbee, Kate Stone, Political Science Honours Students, Brian Lynch, Hon Russell Marshall, Giff Davidson, Prof Athol Mann, Hugo Ludbrook, Prof Les Holborow, NZIIA, Zachary Dorner, Younf Greens, Nicole Wood, Younf labour, Daniel Fielding, Young National, Kattriona MacLeod, journalist, Darren Hughes, Jancita Adhern Labour MPs, and Gordon Campbell Commentator.

Attend opening session of The Commonwealth Conversation

6.00pm  Welcome by the Honourable Peter Dunne, Host Minister, Minister of Revenue and Honorary Member Royal Commonwealth Society Commonwealth Trust

6.04pm  Remarks by Mr Alex Fergusson, Presiding Officer of the Scottish Parliament

6.30pm  Official dinner hosted by the Honourable Dr Lockwood Smith Speaker of the House of Representatives
Venue: Speaker’s Dining Room, Parliament House

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Thursday 22 October

Wellington - Dunedin

7.50am    Depart Wellington

10.50am   Arrive in Dunedin

12.00pm   Visit for Otago Settlers Museum

Meet with: Cr Richard Walls, Representing the Mayor of Dunedin,
Linda Wigley, Otago Settlers Museum, Director
Seán Brosnahan, Curator

Civic lunch

Dr Dorothy Page, President of the Settlers Association
Sue Cantwell, President of the Burns Club
Cr John Bezett, (Chair Economic Development Committee)

Cr Kate Wilson, (Council Representative on Edinburgh Sister City Society)
Cr Paul Hudson, (Chairperson Community Development Committee)
Cr Fliss Butcher, (Deputy Chairperson Community Development Committee)
Jim Harland, Chief Executive of the Council
Graeme Hall, General Manager Community Life
Sandy Graham, Governance Manager
Jenny Lapham, Governance Support Officer

15.15pm    University of Otago

Met by: Professor Liam McIlvanney
Stuart Chair in Scottish Studies, Department of English

Guests include: Professor Andrew Bradstock
Howard Paterson, Chair of Theology and Public Issues
Dr Chris Rudd, Senior Lecturer, Politics
Dr Janine Hayward, Senior Lecturer, Politics
Emeritus Professor, Linda Holloway

Tour of University Campus

17.30pm    Presiding Officer – presents a public lecture entitled “Ten Years of
the Scottish Parliament – the evolution of devolution”

Reception with Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Professor Gareth Jones
Friday 23 October

10.00am  Visit electorate office of the Honourable Pete Hodgson, Member for Dunedin North

11.45am  Visit Puketeraki Marae

12.00pm  Powhiri

12.45pm  Lunch

13.30pm  Briefing about the marae and surrounding area

16.00pm  Depart Dunedin

16.55pm  Arrive in Christchurch

19.30pm  Farewell dinner with Christchurch Members of Parliament

Saturday 24 October

Dunedin - Christchurch - Dubai

10.00am  Arrive Lincoln University

   Introductions/welcome

   Overview of Lincoln University
   Presented by: Professor Roger J Field

   International Trade and Food Miles
   Presented by: Professor Caroline Saunders

11.00am  Lincoln University Dairy Farm

   Overview of South Island Dairying Development Centre
   Presented by: Professor Roger J Field

   Environment and EcoN
   Presented by: Professors Keith Cameron and Hong Di

12.30pm  Leave Lincoln University

4.00pm  Depart Christchurch for Scotland
Report by Ross Finnie on meetings relating to Climate Change

ANNEX B

Meeting Tuesday 13 October 2009 – Perth, Australia
Colin Yates (CY)- Principal Research Scientist
Biodiversity and Climate Change Division, Department of Environment & Conservation

CY explained that prolonged years of drought linked with an increased incidence of forest fires had persuaded most but not all Australians that the country was being affected by climate change. Biodiversity is one of the most vulnerable sectors to climate change and Australia’s vast land mass means that many of its most valued and iconic natural areas, and the rich diversity they support, are amongst the most vulnerable. That recognition, coupled with the fact that exploitation of the country’s massive coal reserves posed a challenge in environmental terms, had resulted in the creation of a Department of Climate Change and climate change divisions within certain other Government Departments.

RF explained that energy use, energy production, transport and land use including agriculture were Scotland’s biggest challenges in relation to climate change CY was aware of some of Scotland’s work in this field and had heard of Scotland’s Climate Change Act (Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009) but he had not studied it in any detail and was grateful to receive a copy of the Act.

CY accepted that each country had to concentrate on areas of greatest need. Looking at the very different energy, transport and land mass mix, between the respective countries, CY’s thought the areas of mutual interest were principally in reducing energy use, mitigation, adaptation and in conserving biodiversity. CY explained that, whilst he and his Division took a general interest in climate change policy generally their major preoccupation in recent months had been in providing support in the preparation of the report: Australia’s Biodiversity and Climate Change prepared for the Australian Government by the Biodiversity and Climate Change Advisory Group.

The report called for a reform of the management of biodiversity and a strengthening of the national commitment to conserve the country’s biodiversity. It also called for public and private investment in the natural life support system and in mitigation and adaptation systems. In the short-term the report called for commitments to further work in the period 2009 – 2012 namely: a review of the National Action Plan for Biodiversity and Climate Change; and a review of the country’s principal biodiversity conservation policy statement the National Strategy for the Conservation of Australia’s Biological Diversity...
CY said his work had convinced him that deep cuts in global emissions are required by 2020 at the latest, if the rate of biodiversity loss is the lessened. He was interested, for example, in the fact that Scotland had lower levels of forestation than countries on a similar latitude and cautioned against planting monocultures of fast-growing trees instead of developing traditional ecosystems that support biodiversity and store more carbon.

Finally, CY touched on the loss of biodiversity as a result of the drought drying up traditional river basins. Vast amounts of water were now being abstracted from underground aquifers. RF asked whether, before the drought, there had been any system of river basin management as per the EU Water Framework Directive. There had not been any such formal system but attention was rapidly turning to developing such a system to protect the aquifers from excessive abstraction. RF pointed out that Scotland had adopted the Water Framework Directive (Water Environment and Water Services (Scotland) Act 2003) and could provide examples of river basin management plans that might equally apply to aquifers.

Meeting Thursday 15 October 2009 – Melbourne, Australia
Rupert Posner (RP), Director Australia and Jodi Newcombe (JN), State and Regional Manager, The Climate Group

The Climate Group, of which Scotland is a member, is a coalition of over 50 state, regional or provincial governments, each having its own parliament and each committed to tackling climate change. As a former environment minister, RF is familiar with the work of the Group having participated in the Montreal Declaration in 2005 to which Scotland was a signatory.

RP was broadly familiar with both Scotland’s first Climate Change Strategy (Changing Our Ways: Scotland’s Climate Change Programme March 2006) and also the recent Climate Change Act (Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009). RP was impressed by the ambitious targets of 42 per cent reductions by 2020 and 80 per cent by 2050. He was interested in how the Act would be enforced and RF said the continuing improvements in measurement techniques would be critical in setting and monitoring sectoral targets.

RP and JN highlighted a number of recent developments that were high on Australia’s climate change agenda. The country’s vast mineral resources make it the largest coal exporter in the world and 80 per cent of its power plants are coal fired. Although Australia only accounts for 1.5 per cent of global CO₂ emissions its per capita emissions are amongst the highest in the world.

In July, the Council of Australian Governments signed up to the National Strategy on Energy Efficiency. The measures in the Strategy are framed around the following themes: assisting households and businesses to lower carbon use;
reducing impediments to the uptake of energy efficiency; making buildings more energy efficient; and getting the public and private sectors to work together to deliver the Strategy. The Strategy aims to reduce carbon pollution by 19.5 million tonnes per year by 2020. RF commented that securing agreement on energy efficiency measures was proving difficult and the Scottish Government had yet to publish its energy efficiency strategy.

Also in July, the Prime Minister had launched the international component of the Global Carbon Capture and Storage Institute as a global initiative to speed up the development of carbon capture and storage (CCS) technology. The Australian government has committed A$100 million annually to support the Institute and a further A$2 billion to support the construction of CCS demonstration projects in Australia.

In August, the main political parties agreed to a new law requiring 20 per cent of the country’s electricity to come from renewable sources. This quadrupled the 5 per cent target set in 2001. Agreement on a renewables target was achieved after the government had split its climate change bill into two parts so that the renewable target would not be dependent on the carbon emissions scheme. RF commented that Scotland was still on course to exploit its vast renewables resource in both on-shore and off-shore wind power, wave and tidal power, hydro power and biomass.

The Emissions Trading Scheme element of the Climate Change Bill aimed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 5 to 15 per cent from 2000 levels over a ten year period. At the time of the meeting, the proposals were being vigorously opposed by a substantial minority in the Australian Senate, largely on the grounds that the costs of the Emissions Trading Scheme, were estimated to add 30 per cent to an average Australian’s energy bill. Given Australia’s huge dependence on coal, RP thought the Bill would be passed in order to give the Australian Government additional credibility at the Copenhagen Summit in December. (1) RF pointed out that 86 per cent of Scotland’s worst industrial emissions polluters were covered by the EU Emissions Trading scheme.

RP said that in meeting the climate change challenge across the Australian States there was now a much better exchange of information in the development both of new measures and in the development and measurement of targets. All of this work was also greatly enhanced by being part of The Climate Group.

(1) RP’s optimism on the prospects for the Climate Change Bill proved unfounded and the Bill was defeated in the Senate on 2 December 2009.
Neither BL nor GM were exclusively involved in climate change issues and were therefore not totally familiar with Scotland’s approach to climate change or the provisions of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009. RF provided a brief summary of the main areas being addressed: energy use and the development of an energy efficiency strategy; energy production and the development of renewable sources; transportation and a switch in investment to public transport and use of the EU Emissions Trading Scheme. These measures were now to be seen in the context of the emissions targets of 42 per cent by 2020 and 80 per cent by 2050 set out in the Climate Change Act.

BL and GM then provided a brief background and summary of current issues. The Government remained committed to addressing the climate change threat but given its comparatively low level of emissions and total dependence on its international trading partners was reluctant to be taking any lead in advance of the Copenhagen summit.

As part of its commitment to Kyoto, the Ministry for the Environment has compiled and maintains all New Zealand carbon reports that detail the country’s actual and projected greenhouse gas emissions by source and removals by sinks. The reports are a critical part of policy formulation and evaluation. RF enquired about the measurement techniques but neither BL nor GM was able to provide any detail.

The Government has committed to ensuring that 90 per cent of its electricity requirement is produced from renewable sources by 2025. At present over 50 per cent of electricity is produced from hydro power. The commitment envisages extending hydro power to 60 per cent, investing in geothermal generation and both off-shore and on-shore wind power.

The Government had announced an emissions reduction target range of 10-20 per cent below 1990 levels to be achieved by 2020. A Bill had been introduced to revise the Emissions Trading Scheme incorporating: revised entry dates of 2010 for transport, energy, and industry and 2015 for agriculture; a transition to 2013 of a 50 per cent obligation and NZ$25 fixed price option for transport, energy and industrial sectors; industry average approach for emissions intensive businesses; incentives for afforestation; and enhanced transitional support for the fishing industry.

Both in terms of protecting the environment generally and in terms of monitoring climate change measures the Government is considering establishing an Environmental Protection Agency. The principal decision still to be taken is
whether the body should be purely advisory or also have enforcement powers and a role in the planning process. RF briefly outlined the role of the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) its statutory role under the Environment Protection Act 1995 and its role as a Statutory Consultee in the planning process. RF also outlined the environmental protection being effected in Scotland under the EU Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive transposed into Scots Law in the Environment Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005
ANNEX C

Report by Rhoda Grant on meetings relating to Domestic Abuse and Rural Health

I met with a cross section of people involved in tackling abuse. I was really impressed at the seamless support that was given through the various agencies. I was especially surprised to see much of this being driven by the Police and the Justice Departments.

Police had powers to put in place twenty-four hour injunctions (Violence Restraining Orders) without the support or agreement of the victim, in Tasmania these ran for 12 months. These were then formalised in court. Justice officials supported the victims through the process and ensured that the court hearing occurred prior to the injunction being spent. Victim Support was part of the Attorney General's office. Longer temporary injunctions were available on the victim's request but these were seldom used as it put the victim in direct conflict with the abuser and this was seen as being something that could inflame the situation. In order to formalise these injunctions complainants only needed to prove a balance of probability (no burden of proof) and could use hearsay as corroboration, this was normally provided by the Police. The Defendant was given the opportunity to object at a final hearing, however if they failed to object or attend the order was granted.

If the Police could not find the perpetrator they could serve the order on their last known address.

Children also had access to these injunctions in their own right and they could seek them or Children's Services officials could seek them in their stead. This would mean that the victim of abuse would have no input. The abuser would be removed from the home and resources would be put in place to support the children and the non-abusive parent. Most of the professionals I met were very clear that being a witness to abuse had a hugely detrimental affect on a child's development and needed to be addressed.

Their injunctions also did not necessarily mean that the perpetrator was removed from the home. This recognised the wish of most victims to remain as a family but to have the abuse stopped. Programmes were available for perpetrators to address their abusive behaviours.

Government and voluntary organisations worked closely together and cases were managed across agencies which meant Departments shared information. The agencies were able to identify high risk cases and these were monitored with regular reviews.
In New Zealand I was equally impressed with their stance in so far as they looked at all family oriented abuse as family abuse - this included child, elder and domestic abuse. All were given equal weighting. The most interesting thing in New Zealand was the work of a task force and its inclusion of the judiciary. Regulations stipulate that meetings were attended by those at senior levels and these officials could not be substituted with lesser ranking officials - the task force reports directly to Ministers.

At the start of this initiative a TV campaign was organised where celebrities said abuse was not OK and suggested to perpetrators that it was OK to ask for help. I learned of a moving story where a perpetrator appeared on a TV advert talking about his abusive behaviour. A family were sitting watching this together when the son turned to his father and said "that's you Dad". The effect was enormous and the man immediately sought counselling to deal with his behaviour. The Task Force have also turned a sceptical printed media around and they now run local campaigns.

Police will soon be given powers to take out twenty-four hour protection orders, similar to those in Western Australia.

They were clear that a perpetrator needed to address their abusive behaviour prior to having access to their children on a relationship breakdown.

They also were keen on investing in home security for families where the abuser had left and also where the abuser was still at home by making adaptations to the home to provide a safe area.

The campaign used the phrase "it's not OK". Website http://www.areyouok.org.nz/home.php

RURAL HEALTH

Western Australia is a huge rural area with extremely sparse populations and faced challenges that were far greater than in Scotland. Their health service is jointly funded by the State and Federal Parliaments and this proved challenging when looking at shared resources, although they had gone some way to addressing that. Hospitals were being changed to provide both health and community care - these small units allowed elderly care to be more localised when residential care was required and also allowed people with medical conditions to be treated as locally as possible. Like Scotland those with more complex conditions needed to travel to centres of excellence - most often in Perth.

They had difficulty in recruiting GPs and had tackled this problem by allowing doctors to train in remote and rural communities. This had initially been frowned
upon by the teaching establishment as it was felt that they would not gain the relevant experience or see a throughput of patients to make this a good training experience. However, the opposite proved to be true with remote and rural trainees on average attaining higher grades than their more urban counterparts. They were also keener to practice in these areas because they were not used to the support that is provided in more urban settings. The Government also provided financial support to specialists to encourage them to work in these areas, this could be as much as an additional 10 - 30% of their salaries. These initiatives had gone some way to dealing with their rural recruitment issues.

For seriously ill patients they have a flying doctors service which appeared to combine emergency retrieval and ambulance service.

With regard to Allied Health professions, such as occupational therapists, therapy assistants undergo training for 12 months enabling them to continue routines that were put in place by professionals.
I first encountered the above when reading an article about MS which stated that the high prevalence of MS in Australia and New Zealand could be linked to ancestry and, as we know, Scots are the largest Diaspora in these areas. It seemed a good opportunity to explore this issue and find out if we Scots really do have this gene.

Whilst looking at various areas surrounding MS, in June 2009, the Scottish Parliament was presented with a Petition from 14yr old Ryan McLaughlin of Glasgow called Shine On Scotland which linked the lack of sunshine (vitamin D) to MS. I was interested in this campaign and, as Australia and New Zealand are sunny climes, it became even more compelling that I meet with experts in Australia and New Zealand to ask what they thought and what they were doing to combat, research and treat MS.

Whilst in Melbourne I met with Mr. Marcus Stafford CEO, Ms Sue Shapland General Manager Member Services, Members of the MS Society, toured the facilities in Melbourne and met with MS sufferers and their carers. The visit was very interesting and I started off by asking if MS was indeed a Scottish Gene to which Mr. Stafford replied that they used to think it was a virus/gene but he was now convinced it was a Myth and had more to do with Environmental factors and lack of Vitamin D.

I then went on to ask what services were offered to combat/treat MS. I was told that early diagnosis is essential, testing for vitamin D deficiency and that pregnant women should be given vitamin supplements. I spoke to a number of people, staff as well as patients, and they all told me that they welcomed the testing for vitamin D deficiency and the emphasis on vitamin D supplements.

The MS Society in Western Australia is very impressive and, as well as government funding (in the past ten years government grants have increased by 280%), they also raise funds through the voluntary sector. They have community nurses, occupational therapy and social work departments, respite services and outreach groups. The centre I visited had counselling services, activities, hydro pool and general support for patients and carers alike. They also commission research and promote increased awareness of MS employ 180 healthcare professionals and participate in government policy reviews.

The one area in which there is concern is appropriate age accommodation and this is due to the complicated health care system which has a range of funding and mechanisms which sees Federal Government responsible for some aspects of health care and States for others.
New Zealand on the other hand does not have the same problems as Australia. When it comes to health the Minister of Health has overall responsibility. In New Zealand District Health Boards (DHBs) have recently looked at primary care as the way forward and have introduced PHOs (primary health organisations) of which there are 82 and they work alongside DHBs.

The MS Society in New Zealand has field officers who work within 18 regions and they are very much involved in all aspects of MS, in New Zealand 72 out of every 100,000 are sufferers.

Research is also very much to the fore and the first ever prevalence study into MS was carried out in Wellington. The results are quite startling stating that MS is most prevalent in people from European Backgrounds. It also states that prevalence is greater in certain regions increasing from 50.08 people per 100,000 in North Island NZ to 134.06 people per 100,000 in South Island.

Also in June 2009 a joint research effort between Australia and New Zealand states that the chance of developing MS comes about from an interaction of genetic and environmental factors.

We still have much to learn about MS and research from other countries is invaluable. I would hope to feed the information I have collected into the Summit about vitamin D deficiency which is due to be held in Scotland early in 2010. I am happy to pass any contacts or information to any interested parties.
Report by Ted Brocklebank on matters relating to Māori culture and experience

I wished to record one or two points about the Māori culture and experience, particularly as compared to that of the Australian Aboriginal people which might be of value, especially as it relates to the Gaelic experience in Scotland.

It is clear that while Aboriginal people are now included in the Australian census they are ignored by many sectors of Australian public life. Because of their nomadic lifestyle, the dispersed nature of their homesteads along with associated problems of deprivation, they have never punched their true weight in the way the Māoris are doing in New Zealand public life.

There are some 200 Aboriginal languages, only 20 or so of which are included in the syllabus of the University of Melbourne and this number is likely to reduce. By contrast the single Māori language is going from strength to strength – from a low-point of 30,000 fluent speakers, most of the 650,000 Māori community now have a smattering of the language with an estimated 136,000 being fluent.

This offers some hope to Scottish Gaelic where the number of speakers has dropped to around 60,000, compared to more than 500,000 who are fluent in Welsh and a similar number in Irish Gaelic.

The remarkable thing is that while the Aboriginal people are one of the oldest on the face of the earth, Māoris have only occupied New Zealand for the past 700 years or so. Indeed so remote is New Zealand that no native mammals have ever been identified as indigenous to that country.

The Māoris were a Polynesian people who colonised New Zealand and fought tenaciously against the British in a series of wars before eventually succumbing. However, the treaty of Waitangi gave them a number of hugely important rights, including control of New Zealand sea fisheries. Currently they are arguing for ownership of beaches and rights to mineral extraction around the coast – i.e. possible oil and gas developments.

This gives the Māori community not only considerable political clout but also raised status in New Zealand public life. They have their own political party – as well as the right to join any other main political party. They also have their own Māori language TV channel.

Paradoxically, whereas the Aboriginal people still appear to be subjected to elements of racism, the Māoris seem almost to enjoy racism in reverse. As we discovered at an almost all-white Māori ‘marai’ – or meeting place – many of the
apparently European NZ community are very proud of their Māori blood. Indeed there are no pure-bred Māori. All have mixed blood in their veins.

It may come as no surprise then that since Māoris are entitled to so many financial advantages through their ‘ownership’ of the coastline and benefits deriving there from that anyone with a trace of Māori blood is happy to proclaim this far and wide!

Our Gaels could learn much from their Māori counterparts, both in terms of the politics of minority groups but also in re-juvenating the Gaelic language.
Post Visit Action and Recommendations

a) The delegation recommends that relevant Parliament officials look at the Constitution Centre of Western Australia in more detail to ascertain whether there are any lessons that Scotland could learn from its operation.

b) The delegation further recommends that officials contact the Electoral Commission (Scotland) to explore the possibility of collaborating to enhance understanding of the relevance of Scotland’s political and legal systems and how this affects daily lives to encourage participation based on the Joint Civics Education Outreach Programme, a collaborative programme between the Parliament of Western Australia, the Constitutional Centre of Western Australia and the Western Electoral Commission to facilitate a joined up approach to education in this important area.

c) The delegation recommends that relevant officials in the Parliament look at the role play tool kit facility as used by the Parliament of Australia in more detail with a view to considering whether a similar facility might be introduced in Scotland.

d) Given the interest in the Scottish Parliament’s Public Petitions Committee from parliamentarians in Western Australia the delegation suggests that the Petitions Committee clerk might wish to continue to follow up on this interest at official level particularly on the technical side.

e) The delegation suggests that Scottish Parliament officials might consider whether lessons could be learned from the New Zealand model in relation to the format of the Scottish Parliament’s engagement with the Scottish Youth Parliament, particularly paying attention to the innovative ways in which members of youth parliaments were involved in on going consultations and policy development and the nature of their engagement with the Parliament.

f) Copies of all the Scottish Parliament educational materials have been dispatched to the New Zealand Parliament and the delegation recommends this is followed up by contact at official level. The delegation also recommends that the SPCB give serious consideration to adopting a mock chamber layout or something similar in the classroom facility at Holyrood.

g) It is recommended that follow up contact be made at official level between the two Parliaments to discuss whether and how the New Zealand Parliament might want to look further at the Festival of Politics model. Following that, it is recommended that officials consider the
possibility of involving a representative(s) from the New Zealand Parliament in a future Festival. The delegation suggests that presentations on the influence of Scots in the development of New Zealand or on their experience of minority/coalition government would certainly be of interest to many in Scotland and would also offer the New Zealand Parliament an opportunity to see the Festival in action.

h) Given the level of interest from the Table Office clerks in the New Zealand Parliament in the Scottish e-petitioning system it is **recommended** that official level contact is made to follow up these initial discussions.

i) The delegation **recommends** that the Executive Committee of CPA Scotland Branch consider exploring the possibility of setting up a Cross Party Group on New Zealand as was the case with Malawi in 2005 or alternatively consider ensuring that New Zealand be considered a long term priority for CPA Scotland Branch in the future to facilitate a sustainable partnership at all levels across the Parliament.

j) The delegation **agreed to ensure** that the Scottish Parliament’s Head of Broadcasting made contact with the New Zealand equivalent to discuss a number of technical issues in more detail given that the Scottish Parliament are a stage further in development and use of this technology.

k) The delegation noted that a significant amount of follow up contact at official level between the staff of the Scottish and New Zealand Parliaments had been sought. This was viewed as a very positive step forward in terms of developing relations between the legislatures and the delegation **recommended** that this contact be tracked in some way to ensure there was some co-ordination and record of the work taken forward.

l) The delegation recommends that officials look into the feasibility of establishing an annual Gaelic Language Day at the Scottish Parliament with a view to, if successful, growing this initiative over the years to provide a tangible additional strand to the Parliament’s next Gaelic Language Strategy to be published in **2013**.

m) Given the success of re-vitalising the Māori language, the delegation also **suggests** that, in pursuing the possibility of New Zealand parliamentary involvement in a future Festival of Politics event, consideration should also be given to involving a Member(s) from the Māori party who could discuss the preservation of the Māori language and the parallels with Gaelic.

n) During discussions with staff and students from the Australian National University, the possibility of the creation of some form of internship programme at the Scottish Parliament was raised. It was not clear from
the initial discussions what form such a programme might take. However, the delegation was attracted to this proposal in principle and recommends that Scottish Parliamentary officials take forward further discussion with the University’s Pro Vice-Chancellor of Education who also attended the round table. (note: The Pro Vice-Chancellor has already contacted the Scottish Parliament about this possibility).

o) The Otago Settlers Museum in Dunedin is about to undergo a major extension and refurbishment programme. The museum houses an extensive collection of photographs, archives and manuscripts relating to the early settlers in New Zealand, many of which travelled from Scotland. Following the completion of its refurbishment in late 2012, the Museum is looking at developing a Scottish themed exhibition and expressed a strong interest in working with the Scottish Parliament on this. Follow up contact at official level is currently taking place and the delegation recommends that, where possible, the Parliament should provide support and assistance to the Museum in taking this initiative forward.

p) The delegation is aware that the Scottish Government has an interest in how New Zealand engages with her Diaspora and therefore recommends that officials in the Scottish Parliament share information and pass on details of the relevant New Zealand contacts to Scottish Government officials.

q) The delegation discussed Scottish culture, the shortage of Gaelic teachers, accessibility issues with BBC Scotland programmes, trade links between Scotland and Australia as well as a host of topics of mutual interest during conversations with members of the Scottish Australian Heritage Society in Sydney. Members of the delegation undertook to feed back views and pass on contact details to relevant organisations in Scotland.

r) The Lachlan Macquarie bicentenary will be celebrated in New South Wales throughout the course of 2010. The delegation recommends that Parliament officials draw this anniversary to the attention of the Government given the potential opportunities to promote Scotland in New South Wales during this landmark year.