

PUBLIC PETITIONS COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION OF PE1672 QUESTIONS / ISSUES ARISING FROM COMMITTEE MEETINGS

THURSDAY, 8 NOVEMBER 2018

The Scottish Government—

- The Committee noted the Scottish Government's written submission of 6 June 2018 which states that it intends to update the "Buying a home: the legal process" section of its website to inform property owners about prescriptive periods.
- In addition, the submission also refers to work the Government is progressing with the Law Society for Scotland to update the Society's information on buying and selling a property regarding the law of prescription.
- The Committee therefore agreed to ask the Scottish Government for an update on the progress it has made in relation to this work.

THURSDAY 10 MAY 2018

The Scottish Government—

- The petitioner remains concerned that title deed holders are unaware of the 20 year cut-off period and has suggested that the Scottish Government introduce an awareness raising scheme to inform title deed holders accordingly. The Committee therefore agreed to seek the views of the Scottish Government in relation to this suggestion.
- If the Scottish Government was not minded to introduce such a scheme, the Committee is keen to understand alternative ways that title deed holders can be adequately informed of the 20 year cut-off period.

Registers of Scotland—

- The Committee agreed to ask Registers of Scotland whether its current IT system was set up in such a way that an automatic letter could be sent to the owner of a property 12-18 months before the 20 cut-off period came into effect, to notify them that there would be no right to redress after this period.

THURSDAY 7 DECEMBER 2017

The Scottish Government—

- What is your view on whether the following approach, which was raised during the meeting, might address the concerns raised without the need for a change to the law?

At the time of the registration of a property, the purchaser could receive a letter of notification specifying what information has been submitted to

Registers of Scotland which will therefore inform purchasers immediately at the time of purchasing a property whether a title has been adequately registered.