

Conservative Party Conference 2009

A British Bill of Rights: thinking through the issues

A joint fringe meeting of **JUSTICE** and the **Society of Conservative Lawyers**

Date: Tuesday 6 October 2009

Time: 5.30pm - 7.00pm

Venue: Charter 1, Manchester Central Convention Complex
(Within secure zone - passes required)

Petersfield, Manchester, M2 3GX

Chair: Eleanor Laing MP Shadow Minister for Justice

Speakers: Dominic Grieve QC MP Shadow Secretary of State for Justice and Shadow Attorney General

Roger Smith OBE Director of JUSTICE

Jonathan Fisher QC Chairman of Research, Society of Conservative Lawyers

Refreshments provided

Speakers at this meeting will consider the proposal to replace the Human Rights Act 1998 (HRA) with a bill of rights. This will include dealing with the following questions:

- Will devolution impede any attempt to get a UK-wide substitute for the HRA?
- What would be the content of a bill of rights and how would this be decided?
- How would a bill of rights be enforceable? Would some provisions be entrenched so that Parliament could not breach them and, if so, which and how?
- What would be the effect of such a bill on the European Convention on Human Rights?
- Would some conflicting rights, such as the balance between privacy and press freedom, need detailed consideration and how might this be incorporated in the drafting process?



SCL
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