

Report of the Independent Commission on the Voting System: Volume 2

Submissions and correspondence from Members of Parliament

Roger Gale MP



Roger Gale, M.P.

House of Commons
London, SW1A 0AA

01227 722366 (Private Office - a.m. only)
01227 720593 (FAX - 24hr)
0171 219 3000 (House of Commons)
0171 219 4343 (Members' messages)

16/03/98

Lord Jenkins of Hillhead
Independent Commission on the Voting System
6th Floor
Clive House
Petty France
London SW1H 9HD

Dear Roy

I have had sight of the letter sent to you dated 2nd March by Sandy Bruce-Lockhart the Leader of Kent County Council.

May I endorse, entirely, the sentiments expressed in Mr Bruce-Lockhart's letter: as one who has always regarded himself as a constituency Member of Parliament I believe very strongly indeed that the relationship between the elected Member and the constituency - at every level - must be maintained.

You know from your own experience of the growing constituency casework load, and while there are some who believe that this an improper use of a Member of Parliament's time, it is I think a fact of Parliamentary life that we are all going to do more and more with constituents' personal problems as well as legislation. That service would be well nigh impossible without the direct link between a Member and his constituency.

I take entirely the points that Mr Bruce-Lockhart makes in his letter relating specifically to County Councillors where quite clearly the same arguments apply.

With my very best wishes.



ROGER GALE MP

c.c. Cllr Sandy Bruce Lockhart