

# JUSTICE PRESS RELEASE

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For immediate release

## **Prisoners' votes: Lord Chancellor must support legislation**

JUSTICE today wrote to the Lord Chancellor pointing out that his oath of office under the Constitutional Reform Act 2005 requires him to 'respect the rule of law'.

The Attorney General was clear in his evidence to the House of Commons Justice Committee yesterday that the UK should respond positively to the judgment of the European Court of Human Rights and bring forward legislation of some kind to meet the points made by the judges: 'the issue,' he said, 'is whether the United Kingdom wishes to be in breach of its international obligations'.

Roger Smith OBE, JUSTICE's director said:

Whatever Mr Grayling may think about the issue of prisoners having the right to vote, he is bound by his office to join the Attorney General in maintaining the rule of law. He must publicly to urge compliance with the judgment of the European Court of Human Rights.

For further information, ring Roger Smith 0207 762 6412 or 07785 781030.

The letter to Mr Grayling is attached.

*Chair of Council* **Baroness Kennedy of the Shaws QC** *Director* **Roger Smith OBE**

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