

Edinburgh hosts gathering of international lawyers

Lawyers from 26 countries are to meet in Edinburgh today when they will be addressed by Kenny MacAskill MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Justice. The occasion is a meeting of law firms that are members of Lexwork, the international network of independent law firms. The conference is being hosted by Lexwork's Scottish member firm, Gillespie Macandrew.

Derek McCulloch of Gillespie Macandrew, who will chair the conference, said:-“This is an excellent opportunity for these international commercial lawyers to learn about how the interrelationship might change between Scotland and the rest of the world should the 2014 referendum result in Scotland becoming independent. I am regularly asked by our overseas business contacts ‘What would it mean for business if Scotland becomes independent?’, so to have as senior a figure as the Cabinet Secretary for Justice address our group will be an enlightening occasion for all.”

Representatives from 22 European nations, plus others from the USA, Canada, India and Hong Kong will be in Edinburgh for three days, during which time they will discuss a number of issues impacting on law firms operating in the international arena.

Derek McCulloch added:-“Beyond the session addressed by Kenny MacAskill, our discussions will focus on cross-border work issues on Energy, Employment Law and Legal Services to Business. A significant advantage that Gillespie Macandrew derives from being part of the Lexwork network is that it allows us immediate access to people we know in the key jurisdictions important to Scotland's trade with the rest of the world.”

Lexwork comprises a total of 41 member firms worldwide, representing over 2,500 lawyers in 36 countries and 111 cities.