

Post Cumbria Situation-Parliamentary Debate

As Parliament have now broken for the summer recess, the full debate on firearms legislation cannot now take place until October, this gives us some time to brief as many MPs as we can. However, the Chairman of the Commons Home Affairs Committee Mr K Vaz has decided to examine four matters he thinks are relevant to taking the correct actions post Cumbria. This committee has a different timetable from the main debate and has asked for submissions by the 27th August!!

Our main submission will of course be as part of BSSC. However, we should make a separate submission of our own, which can be done without compromising that of the BSSC. It is however important that we do not comment on issues which are outside of the Home Affairs Committee's stated areas of interest.

At a meeting on the 4th August BSSC will finalise their document for submission, which does not give us much time to draft ours. But one will be submitted, by the Association.

It would be of tremendous help if as many as possible of our members made an individual submission. Bill Harriman of the BASC and an Honorary Member of the Association has published a guide as to points to be considered and how to submit them on the BASC web site. Please make an effort and send in some comments as an individual. If we don't make an effort we tell the Committee that we don't care and the Chairman Mr Vaz who cannot be thought of as pro-gun, will draw his own conclusions.

As Bill's note says as many people as possible should send in comments. I intend to do so as an individual, and I urge you to do so as well. There will be a note about this on the web site asking Members to follow our example and write in.

The full debate is still some way off , but if we do not react to this situation the "anti's" will have a head start. **Please do what you can.**

Ken Hocking
Chairman, MLAGB