

## Time for a written Constitution?

Written by PAG

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NOT SO VERY UNREASONABLE! EHH?

JOHN: "My Mistress says she hopes you won't call a meeting of her creditors; but if you will leave your Bill in the usual way, it shall be properly attended to."

PAG has made a [written submission](#) to a Joint Committee which is considering the constitutional principles raised by [The Electoral Reform Bill 2011](#).

As well as calling for LegCo to be popularly elected (which is in the PAG Charter) the Bill makes two main proposals.

First, that the Island should be divided into eight constituencies; and second, that each constituency should return three MHKs and one MLC.

'Constitutional principles' implies that the IoM may have a written Constitution, which it clearly doesn't.

But is it time that we did consider such a legal document?

The Constitution of Ireland has operated since 1937. There have been 25 adopted subsequent amendments, the last being in 2004.

It has evolved over the years to reflect the changing norms of society. As this extract from Article 1 states "to develop its life, political, economic and cultural"

What impact can a written Constitution have on the lives of ordinary people?

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Well, in Ireland, if [this video](#) is anything to go by, potentially a considerable effect.

[The video](#) is very amusing, but has serious political and legal undertones.

Try and stay with it for about 14 minutes and you'll see what we mean.