**Functions of the Commission**

The Commission is a statutory body established by the *Law Reform Commission Act 1975* which requires the Commission to keep the law under review and to conduct research with a view to reforming the law. Law reform is defined to include:

* the development of law
* its codification (including its simplification and modernisation)
* the revision and consolidation of statute law

Since it was established, the Commission has published over 200 documents (Issues Papers, Consultation Papers, Working Papers and Reports) containing proposals for law reform.

**Programmes of Law Reform and Requests from the Attorney General**

The Commission’s research work comes from two main sources:

* Programmes of Law Reform prepared by the Commission and agreed by Government and laid before the Houses of the Oireachtas
* Requests from the Attorney General in relation to particular matters

The Commission has carried out its statutory mandate under fourProgrammes of Law Reform: Fourth Programme (2013); Third Programme (2008); Second Programme (2000); and First Progamme (1977).

The Commission's work also involves making legislation more accessible to the public. The Commission produces and maintains the following, all of which are available free online:

* the ***Legislation Directory***, an online searchable guide to legislative changes to all 3,000+ Acts of the Oireachtas, and to the 1,364 pre-1922 Acts retained in force in 2007: it is regularly updated, and published on the electronic Irish Statute Book website, [www.irishstatutebook.ie](http://www.irishstatutebook.ie). The Commission has also developed a separate Legislation Directory of Statutory Instruments (those made from 1999 onwards), also available at [www.irishstatutebook.ie](http://www.irishsttautebook.ie).
* ***Revised Acts***: 270 Revised Acts (Acts as amended, rather than as enacted), which includes over 100 pre-2006 much-used Acts, and all textually amended Acts from 2006 onwards (other than Finance and Social Welfare Acts), available on the Commission’s website, [www.lawreform.ie](http://www.lawreform.ie).
* the ***Classified List of In-Force Acts in Ireland***, a list of all Acts of the Oireachtas that remain in force (2,000+) and over 100 pe-1922 Acts, organised under 36 subject headings (such as Commercial Law, Criminal Law, Employment Law, Environment, Family Law, Land Law, Taxation). This is updated regularly and is also available on the Commission’s website, [www.lawreform.ie](http://www.lawreform.ie). A draft Classified List of In-Force Statutory Instruments will be published in 2016.