

of Coalition, we will conduct a full review of Parliamentary procedures, which should formally recognise individual political parties not just Government and Opposition.

10.2 A decentralised but United Kingdom

Liberal Democrats have a proud record of leading the way on giving greater powers to the nations of the UK. Liberal Democrat Ministers were the ones to lead the 2012 Scotland Act and the 2014 Wales Act through Parliament, transferring more financial autonomy to Scotland than ever before, and Wales' first tax powers. And in the last months, we have given the governments of Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland the power to lower the voting age to 16.

Now we need go further. We must deliver on the promises made to the people of Scotland and the rest of the UK to further decentralise power. In short, we will deliver Home Rule to each of the nations of a strong, federal United Kingdom.

Constitutional change has taken place rapidly. We now need to make sure all the new arrangements work together coherently and we will therefore establish a UK Constitutional Convention, made up from representatives of the political parties, academia, civic society and members of the public, tasked with producing a full written constitution for the UK, to report within two years.

There are many powers that we think should be devolved on an equal basis to the existing Parliaments and Assemblies. We will transfer power to:

- ♦ Borrow for investment.
- ♦ Manage the Crown Estate's economic assets.
- ♦ Control a range of benefits for older people, carers and disabled people.

Scotland

After the independence referendum, the Smith Commission brought Scotland's five main parties together to agree what further powers should be assigned to the Scottish Parliament. Liberal Democrats ensured the package of powers reflects Scotland's key priorities.

The Scottish Parliament should raise in tax more than half of what it spends in its budget. A Scottish welfare system should allow the Scottish Parliament to change the benefits regime where there is specific Scottish need or priority, with a starting budget of around £3 billion.

These powers and more will deliver for the Scottish people: an