

By Dee Vine our Fashion Correspondent and Temporary Assistant Deputy Head of Bias



A commission appointed by the "leader" of the Scottish sub-group of the Labour Party, examining further powers for Labour controlled councils and (just maybe) the Scottish Parliament as well, has met for the first time - seven months after it was announced.

The commission, which is led by a little known MSP called Johann Lamont (Bunker North), and includes MPs, MEPs, union members and academic advisers, met in Glasgow earlier.

An insider told BBC Scotlandshire that the commission had been delayed while a final decision was made by Ed Balls on precisely how far to the right Scottish Labour was to settle.

When she announced the commission last March, Ms Lamont said that, central to the commission would be determining Labour's position on whether further powers, beyond Calman, should be transferred to the Scottish Parliament.

She also told the spring conference: "Devolution can't just mean powers going from London to Edinburgh but what powers does local government need". She also made it clear that some Scottish Executive powers may need to be returned to Westminster.

There is no indication of when Ms Lamont's commission might report.

The Prime Minister, Sir Alex Douglas "Home Rule" Cameron, has said he is open to looking at possibly considering the feasibility of further devolution to Holyrood but only after the inevitable no vote in the Scottish government's proposed independence referendum which they hope to hold in the Autumn of 2014.

While the self-styled Scottish Labour leader had retreated to her bunker, Mrs McHeroin (14) said on her behalf : "I'm delighted that our dedicated group discussing where decision making power should lie in Scotland has started its work.

"For too long, the issue of constitutional change has been about the false choice offered by the SNP. Decision making isn't just a discussion about Holyrood and Westminster: it's about where power should best lie to ensure that decisions which affect our communities are made at the most appropriate level, which does mean thinking about our councils too.

"All parts of the Scottish Labour movement (that my man controls) will come together to ensure that we offer coherent and fit-for-purpose proposals to the Scottish people which meet their aspirations for Scotland."

However, the membership of the commission was roundly condemned by Labour council fundsperson, Mad Dog Shug McHeroin (43), who demanded that all its members should be from Glasgow and North Lanarkshire councils.



Related Articles

BBC: [Scottish Labour leader Lamont's new powers group meets for first time](#)

Comments

Due to the huge number of complaints, comments are no longer banned on BBC Scotlandshire News pages.

{comment}

Comments or no comments, it's still OUR job to tell YOU what to think - NOT the other way around.