

4 September 2023

Crossbench hereditary peers' by-election

This note confirms arrangements for the by-election following the death of Lord Palmer on 10 July and the retirement of Lord Hylton on 27 July 2023.

Electors

Lord Palmer and Lord Hylton were elected under Standing Order 9(2)(i)(d), among the “28 peers elected by the Crossbench hereditary peers”. Therefore, under Standing Order 9(2), the electorate will be the excepted hereditary peers belonging to the Crossbench group, of whom there are currently 32¹. A list is on page 3. All 32 are eligible to vote in this by-election.

Candidates

Those eligible to be candidates are hereditary peers on the register maintained by the Clerk of the Parliaments.

The deadline for registration of candidature was 12 noon on Thursday 24 August. 13 candidates registered to stand in this by-election; a list is on page 3. Candidates were invited to submit a written statement of up to 75 words, and their statements are on pages 4–6.

Voting timetable

This by-election will be conducted via a secret ballot, using electronic means.

An email containing full voting instructions and link to the online voting website will be sent to the parliamentary email address of each member eligible to vote around 8am on Tuesday 19 September from takepart@cesvotes.com. The subject line will be: “Palmer-Hylton by-election – voting link”. The email will contain instructions on how votes can be cast online, along with a link to the secure website (which will be active from 10am).

Voting will take place online from 10am until 5pm on Tuesday 19 September. It is expected that the result will be announced in the Chamber on Wednesday 20 September after Questions.

Voting system

One election, with one digital ‘ballot paper’, will be held to elect two hereditary peers. The Single Transferable Vote system will be used. Voters will place the name of the candidate they most strongly support at the top of the ballot paper, then place their next most favoured candidate below, and so on. Voters may cast as many or as few votes as they wish.

¹ This figure comprises 28 hereditary peers elected by a party or group and sitting as Crossbench peers; three hereditary peers elected by the whole House and sitting as Crossbench peers; and the Earl Marshal, who sits as a Crossbencher.

To be elected a successful candidate must achieve the number of votes required for election. The number of votes required for election at each stage is calculated by dividing the total number of valid votes by one more than the number to be elected.

Results

The electronic count will be overseen by Civica Election Services.

The result will be announced in the House of Lords Chamber by the Clerk of the Parliaments at a convenient moment on Wednesday 20 September 2023.

The full results, including the number of first-preference votes cast for each candidate and the position after each transfer of votes, will be available in the Printed Paper Office after the announcement by the Clerk of the Parliaments. The results will also be published online at [parliament.uk](https://www.parliament.uk).

4 September 2023

SIMON BURTON
Clerk of the Parliaments

List of electors

Elected by a party or group and sitting as Crossbench peers:

Aberdare, L.	Mountevans, L.
Brookeborough, V.	Peel, E.
Carrington, L.	Ravensdale, L.
Clancarty, E.	Rosslyn, E.
Cork and Orrery, E.	Russell of Liverpool, L.
Craigavon, V.	St John of Bletso, L.
Cromwell, L.	Sandwich, E.
Devon, E.	Somerset, D.
Erroll, E.	Stair, E.
Freyberg, L.	Thurlow, L.
Greenway, L.	Trevethin and Oaksey, L.
Hampton, L.	Vaux of Harrowden, L.
Kinnoull, E.	Waverley, V.
Lytton, E.	Wellington, D.

Elected by the whole House and sitting as Crossbench peers:

Colville of Culross, V.
Londesborough, L.
Oxford and Asquith, E.

Other excepted Crossbench hereditary peer:

Norfolk, D.

List of candidates

Albemarle, E.
Aldington, L.
Braybrooke, L.
Carnarvon, E.
Chorley, L.
De Clifford, L.
Erne, E. (*L. Fermanagh*)
Meston, L.
Rochdale, V.
Sempill, L.
Somerleyton, L.
Southampton, L.
Walpole, L.

Candidature statements

Albemarle, E.

25 years of experience in industrial design and packaging conducted in Europe & the USA. 12 years have been spent farming in East Sussex.

My aim would be to contribute to the understanding of creative arts sector as well as contemporary knowledge of agricultural, land & environmental issues.

Stood in the house from 1988 to 1999 now in my late 50's would like to contribute as in the past as a Cross Bench Peer.

Aldington, L.

My career was in banking, since which I have written books on Landscape gardening and two ancestors. Currently I am working on Devolution in England. Together with a loose team of knowledgeable people, we have looked at the hurdles and concerns, what structure might work, consequences for public funding and sources of investment. The topic is vital for our country's future. It will come before the House frequently, and I would like to contribute.

Braybrooke, L.

I am the marketing director of an established British luxury brand and have spent the last twenty years working in the internet and technology sector, from small start-ups to multinational companies. With my experience, I would be able to contribute on a wide range of issues in these fields which I feel would complement the make-up of the House. I am a political independent and would regularly attend the House.

Carnarvon, E.

I have long experience in working in the rural economy at Highclere including farming and tourism so interested in the challenges facing these industries. Also part of a new spirits brand with USA partners exporting from UK distillery.

I am politically centrist and see that the best way forward for the UK is to give up the dogma of recent years and use the best ideas from both main parties.

Chorley, L.

I would make a material contribution using my professional IT expertise, personal interests and experience.

I have made public-sector IT projects work nationally and internationally for over 30 years, effecting Digital-Transformation in organisations by applying new technologies like AI, to safely improve public services: this experience may be under-represented in the House.

Personally, I worked for 5 years in Asia-Pacific, have long-standing interests in built heritage and the environment, and a multi-generational experience of neurodiversity.

De Clifford, L.

My aspirations continue to be a committed independent, and effective member of the house. I am the Chief Operating and Finance Officer for a large veterinary group and president of the Veterinary Management Group. I bring expertise and experience in animal welfare, food production, and safety, leadership development, and business management. I have an open mindset and the ability to listen, evaluate and understand thus bringing a broad perspective to the workings of the House.

Erne, E. (*L. Fermanagh*)

JOHN CRICHTON, EARL OF ERNE

1. I come from Northern Ireland and I am interested in UK Politics and the retention of the Union of all and constituent parts.
2. I have over 30 years experience of residential property in England and tourism/hospitality sector in N. Ireland.
3. I wish to play my part in the House of Lords as I believe its value as a revising Chamber.
4. Involved in cross community border charity.

Meston, L.

Practising barrister from 1973 (QC 1996) until 1999 (mainly family law). Then a circuit judge until 2020. Now part-time judge.

Second in last Crossbench by-election.

Active in Lords until 1999, latterly a Crossbencher.

Particularly involved in Bills concerning children, domestic abuse, divorce.

Committees included Medical Ethics, Statutory Instruments, Consolidation Bills, Personal Bills.

Believe strongly in effective scrutiny of legislation and the value of Crossbench independence and objectivity.

Would commit fully to involvement in the Lords.

Rochdale, V.

Jonathan Rochdale MSc

Award-winning education entrepreneur: 24 years, developed scientifically proven techniques to help professionals, students, and dyslexics learn more efficiently and quickly.

Masters: Finance, trade, shipping. Specific focus on China. Understanding of Chinese language and East Asian culture.

Front-line public service: Metropolitan Police, 12 years (commendations for bravery and investigative ability).

Champion: Dyslexia, mental health – depression, bipolar, addiction (all four from lived experiences). Social justice, environment, and climate.

Fully committed, independent and London-based.

Sempill, L.

As a past member of the Crossbenches, I would be privileged to have the opportunity to return and participate fully in the business of the House.

In the intervening years I have had a brief flirtation with Scottish politics, since when I have been actively engaged in Scottish Ancestral Tourism. (<https://www.clanchieftours.co.uk/>)

I am in good health and now live a short train ride from Westminster.

Somerleyton, L

25 years experience and entrepreneurship in hospitality and in East Anglia, 17 years' practical experience in rural affairs, agriculture, environment, tourism and heritage. Founder WildEast Foundation – a community stakeholder driven regional nature recovery network with the aim of turning 20% of East Anglia wild.

Other interests, Middle Eastern and European affairs, education and climate crisis.

President of three local charities, vice chair of the Historic Houses eastern region committee, recently became a DL.

Southampton, L.

No statement

Walpole, L.

Politics has been part of my life since childhood

Work: *inter alia*, photographer, writer, financial analyst

Education: MA, PhD upgrade

Fluent French

Would commit to being a full-time working peer