



Conservative Hereditary Peers' By-election, March 2007: Result

In the by-election following the death of Lord Mowbray and Stourton, a total of 43 valid votes were cast. There were no spoilt ballot papers. 47 Conservative hereditary peers were eligible to vote. Of the 43 candidates, 12 received one or more first-preference votes. After 6 transfers of votes, the voting for the final two candidates was as follows:

Earl Cathcart	21
Viscount Younger of Leckie	17

The successful candidate was therefore **Earl Cathcart**.

Overleaf are details of the votes cast for each candidate at each stage of the count. The left-hand column lists all 43 candidates. The next column shows the number of first-preference votes for each candidate. Subsequent columns (which are numbered) show the number of votes for each candidate after each transfer of votes from excluded candidates. An **X** in a column shows that the candidate concerned was excluded at that stage. The penultimate row shows the total number of votes at each stage, i.e. after excluding any votes which could not be transferred because no further preference was marked. The last row shows the number of votes required at that stage for a candidate to be elected, i.e. half the total (rounded up).

A note on the voting system

- The election was conducted using the alternative vote system (also known as preferential voting).
- Under this system, voters rank in order as many candidates as they wish.
- Initially only first-preference votes are counted.
- If the vote for any one candidate equals or exceeds the votes of all the other candidates combined, that candidate is elected.
- Otherwise the votes for the candidate or candidates with fewest votes are transferred to whichever of the continuing candidates is marked by that voter as their next available preference, and the votes thus transferred are added to the first preference votes of those candidates. The process is repeated until one candidate has as many votes as all the other remaining candidates combined.
- Any paper on which no further preference is marked is set aside as non-transferable.

The poll was supervised and the count conducted by Electoral Reform Services. Lord Geddes acted as scrutineer.

7 March 2007

PAUL HAYTER
Clerk of the Parliaments

**Results of House of Lords Conservative Hereditary Peers' By-Election,
7 March 2007**

Candidate	1st-preference	Votes after transfers					
	votes	1	2	3	4	5	6
L. Abinger	0X						
V. Addison	0X						
E. Alexander of Tunis	1	X					
L. Annaly	0X						
L. Ashbourne	0X						
L. Biddulph	0X						
L. Birdwood	1	X					
L. Cadman	0X						
E. Cathcart	10	11	11	12	12	16	21
L. Chesham	1	X					
L. Darling	0X						
L. De Ramsey	3	3	3	X			
L. Gainford	0X						
V. Gormanston (<i>L. Gormanston</i>)	0X						
L. Harlech	0X						
V. Hill	0X						
V. Hood	0X						
E. Iveagh	1	X					
L. Killearn	0X						
E. Kinnoull (<i>L. Hay</i>)	0X						
L. Margadale	1	X					
V. Massereene and Ferrard (<i>L. Oriel</i>)	0X						
V. Monckton of Brenchley	0X						
L. Morris	0X						
L. Newall	0X						
L. Ogmore	0X						
L. Oranmore and Browne (<i>L. Mereworth</i>)	0X						
L. Pender	0X						
L. Polwarth	0X						
L. Poole	0X						
L. Rathcavan	4	4	4	4	X		
L. Rowallan	0X						
L. Seaford	0X						
E. Stockton	6	6	6	7	9	11	X
L. Sudeley	0X						
L. Swansea	0X						
E. Swinton	0X						
L. Terrington	0X						
V. Torrington	2	4	6	6	7	X	
L. Vivian	0X						
V. Weir	1	2	X				
E. Woolton	0X						
V. Younger of Leckie	12	13	13	14	15	16	17
VOTES EXCLUDED AT EACH STAGE							5
TOTAL CONTINUING VOTES AT EACH STAGE	43	43	43	43	43	43	38
VOTES NEEDED IN ORDER TO BE ELECTED	22	22	22	22	22	22	19