Crossbench hereditary peers’ by-election

This notice confirms arrangements for the by-election following the retirement of Lord Walpole.

Elector
Lord Walpole was one of the hereditary peers elected by the Crossbench hereditary peers. Therefore, under Standing Order 10(2) the voters in this by-election will be the excepted hereditary peers belonging to the Crossbench group, of whom there are currently 31 eligible to vote. A list is annexed.

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 5 pm on Wednesday 28 June 2017. Ten candidates registered to stand; a list is below. Candidates were invited to submit a written statement of up to 75 words; those statements are also below.

A hustings organised by the Convenor of the Crossbench Peers will be held in the morning of Tuesday 11 July 2017. The Convenor’s office will contact candidates and electors with further details shortly.

Voting timetable
Ballot papers will be posted to electors by Electoral Reform Services on Friday 30 June 2017. Completed papers should be returned to the Office of the Clerk of the Parliaments either by post or in person by 5 pm on Tuesday 18 July 2017. Ballot papers received after this time will not be counted. Electors should use the pre-addressed envelopes sent with the ballot papers.

Voting system
The Alternative Vote system will be used. Voters place the figure 1 in the box next to the name of the candidate they most strongly support, the figure 2 against the next most favoured candidate, and so on. Voters may cast as many or as few votes as they wish. In order to be elected, the first successful candidate must receive at least as many votes as all the other candidates put together. In the event of this not happening after first-preference votes have been allocated, the votes of the candidates receiving the lowest number of first-preference votes will be shared out according to the second preference marked on them. This will be repeated until one candidate has at least half of the total valid votes.

Ballot papers will be invalidated if:
- any number is used more than once, or
- in the opinion of the Returning Officer (the Clerk of the Parliaments) the ballot paper is illegible or ambiguous.
Results
The count will be conducted by Electoral Reform Services.

The result will be announced in the House of Lords chamber by the Clerk of the Parliaments at a convenient moment (likely to be after oral questions) on Wednesday 19 July 2017.

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 and the Library soon after the announcement by the Clerk of the Parliaments. The results will also be published online at www.parliament.uk

30 June 2017

ED OLLARD
Clerk of the Parliaments
List of electors

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

Aberdare, L.  Mountevans, L.
Baldwin of Bewdley, E.¹  Northbourne, L.
Brookeborough, V.  Palmer, L.
Clancarty, E.  Peel, E.
Cork and Orrery, E.  Rosslyn, E.
Craigavon, V.  Russell of Liverpool, L.
Cromwell, L.  St John of Bletso, L.
Erroll, E.  Sandwich, E.
Freyberg, L.  Slim, V.
Greenway, L.  Somerset, D.
Hylton, L.  Stair, E.
Kinnoull, E.  Thurlow, L.
Listowel, E.  Trevethin and Oaksey, L.
Lytton, E.  Waverley, V.

*Elected by the whole House and sitting as Crossbench peers:*

Colville of Culross, V.
Falkland, V.
Mar, C.

List of candidates

Aldington, L.
Cadman, L.
Darling, L.
Hayter, L.
Hemphill, L.
Hill, V.
Mostyn, L.
Powerscourt, V. (L. Powerscourt)
Somerleyton, L.
Vaux of Harrowden, L.

¹ At time of writing had yet to take the oath of allegiance in this Parliament. A ballot paper will be issued only if the oath is taken by or on 18 July 2017.
Candidature statements

Aldington, L.
Followed family into banking, did business in UK, US, Asia, Europe working closely with Germany. Now advise a Fintech venture for SMEs, and chair Finance Committee at Ditchley, attending many of their conferences. Concerns, where I might have something to contribute, are young people, Brexit negotiations, innovation and regional policies, and funding for arts, universities and health.

Cadman, L.
[No statement submitted.]

Darling, L.
- Wide experience of business and the professions, the charitable and voluntary sectors.
- Chairman of Nuffield Farming UK, with members in key positions in UK agriculture advising/informing Government.
- Surveyor for large-scale housing development with social housing, employment, education and recreation.
- Fund raiser for social care charity, now Big Lottery funded, working with local group of surgeries and relieving bed-blocking in regional hospital.
- Vice-chairman of Mental Healthcare NHS Trust.
- Prison visitor for 19 years.

Hayter, L.
I believe my experience in the security industry would be of service. I was Managing Director of Chubb Malaysia and later Chubb Australia and travelled extensively around the world on business. After leaving Chubb I ran my own company, Uniqey Security Ltd, manufacturing electronic hotel locks. I am a parish councillor, classical guitarist, sculptor and gardener. My father was a Deputy Speaker and I would be proud to follow in his footsteps.

Hemphill, L.
My background is in finance, education and healthcare. I have over 35 years’ experience in investment management. I served for several years as chairman of the governors at a girls’ school, and I currently chair the investment committee for University College London Hospital’s Charitable Trust.
My aim is to be an active Crossbencher. The Brexit process will require extensive work under time pressure. In this matter and others, I offer energy, insights, time and scrutiny.

Hill, V.
I wish to come and give my support for Brexit.
I have been in farming.

Mostyn, L.
Being only 32 years old, I can bring some youth to the House. I can also speak for the underrepresented northwest of England and Wales as I am located in north Wales. I have years of experience in local businesses as I run an estate that covers much of Wales. I am also very involved in local charities, being patron of many organisations; and I have knowledge of key job sectors having previously worked in them.
Powerscourt, V. (L. Powerscourt)
Concerns: Mental health and family wellbeing.
       Prevention and early intervention of family breakdown.
       Parity between mental and physical health.
Experience: Over 15 years national and international charities (Mercy Ships, Care for the Family, Samaritans, MIND, South Wales Psychotherapy). Front-line experience counselling people in urban and rural south Wales sometimes in significant poverty. BACP-registered counsellor.
Availability: Currently in private practice allowing for flexibility to attend as a working peer.

Somerleyton, L.
I think the hereditary peerage worth preserving. In a time of great uncertainty, its principle creates a sense of underrated commitment to the welfare of the nation. 20 years’ experience and entrepreneurship in hospitality; in East Anglia 12 years’ practical experience of rural affairs, agriculture, environment, tourism and housing. Special interests include re-wilding movement and animal welfare, Middle Eastern affairs/sustainable justice for Palestinians. I would make a distinctive contribution in these areas as a liberal pro-European Crossbencher.

Vaux of Harrowden, L.
A lifelong independent.
Runner-up in the last Crossbench by-election.
A chartered accountant, I have 30 years’ international business experience, having lived and worked in the UK, Europe and Asia.
For 15 years held senior positions in the technology sector, covering public sector, education and financial services, latterly as global head of corporate development for a $5bn US group.
Interests in renewable energy, farming and Scotland.
I am able to and would intend to contribute fully.