



# HOUSE OF LORDS

## Hereditary peers' by-election, March 2017: result

In the by-election following the death of Lord Lyell, 346 valid votes were cast. All current members of the House who have taken the oath, 803 in total, were eligible to vote.

On the first count, of the 27 candidates, 26 received one or more first-preference votes. After 25 transfers of votes, the votes for the final two candidates were:

Lord Bethell	108
Lord Colgrain	143

The successful candidate was therefore **Lord Colgrain**.

Overleaf are details of the votes cast for each candidate at each count. The left-hand column lists all candidates and their party or group affiliation. 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 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 if necessary).

### 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 for all the other candidates combined, that candidate is elected.
- Otherwise the votes for the candidate or candidates with fewest votes (or, in the event of a tie, fewest first-preference 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 was conducted by Electoral Reform Services. Lord Geddes, Lord Hope of Craighead, Baroness Humphreys and Lord McAvoy acted as scrutineers.

27 March 2017

David Beamish  
*Clerk of the Parliaments*



	<b>First-preference votes</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
Stockton, E. (Conservative)	34	34	34	34	34	34	34	35	35	37	38	38	39	39	41	41	42
Strathcarron, L. (Conservative)	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	9	9	9	9	9	9X
Swansea, L. (Conservative)	4	4	4	4	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5X				
Windlesham, L. (Conservative)	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	15	15	15	15	15	16	16	16	16
VOTES EXCLUDED AT EACH STAGE	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	1
TOTAL CONTINUING VOTES AT EACH STAGE	346	346	346	346	345	344	344	344	344	344	344	344	344	342	342	340	339
VOTES NEEDED IN ORDER TO BE ELECTED	173	173	173	173	173	172	172	172	172	172	172	172	172	171	171	170	170

**Distribution of votes (continued)**

	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
Abergavenny, M. (Conservative)	30	31	32	35	36	37	38X		
Addison, V. (Conservative)									
Alexander of Tunis, E. (Conservative)									
Bethell, L. (Conservative)	62	62	64	68	70	76	82	90	108X
Biddulph, L. (Conservative)									
Cadman, L. (Conservative)									
Colgrain, L. (Conservative)	111	111	113	115	118	118	126	137	143
Darling, L. (Crossbench)	14	14X							
Gainford, L. (No party/group affiliation declared)									
Hampton, L. (Crossbench)									
Hankey, L. (Crossbench)									
Harlech, L. (Liberal Democrat)									
Harrowby, E. (Conservative)	17	17	19	20	23	23X			
Hood, V. (Crossbench)									
Kennet, L. (Liberal Democrat)	14X								
Limerick, E. ( <i>L. Foxford</i> ) (Conservative)									
Lloyd-George of Dwyfor, E. (Liberal Democrat)	15	23	23	23	23X				
Macpherson of Drumochter, L. (Conservative)									
Mostyn, L. (Crossbench)									
Mountgarret, V. ( <i>L. Mountgarret</i> ) (Conservative)									
Napier and Ettrick, L. (Conservative)	16	16	16X						
Powerscourt, V. ( <i>L. Powerscourt</i> ) (Crossbench)									
Somerleyton, L. (Crossbench)									
Stockton, E. (Conservative)	43	44	45	46	49	58	59	62X	
Strathcarron, L. (Conservative)									
Swansea, L. (Conservative)									
Windlesham, L. (Conservative)	17	17	17	18X					

	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
VOTES EXCLUDED AT EACH STAGE	0	4	6	4	6	7	7	16	39
TOTAL CONTINUING VOTES AT EACH STAGE	339	335	329	325	319	312	305	289	250
VOTES NEEDED IN ORDER TO BE ELECTED	170	168	165	163	160	156	153	145	125