



## **Hereditary peers' by-election**

This notice confirms the arrangements for the by-election following the retirement of the Countess of Mar.

### ***Electors***

The Countess of Mar was one of 15 hereditary peers elected by the whole House in 1999 from among those ready to serve as Deputy Speakers or in any other office. Therefore, under Standing Order 9 7), her successor will be elected by the whole House. In 1999 the House agreed that a peer elected at a by-election in this category should not be expected to serve as a Deputy Speaker. Under the terms of an informal agreement amongst the parties and groups in the House of Lords, it is expected that this vacancy will be filled by an hereditary peer who will sit as a crossbench member of the House.

All members of the House who have taken the oath on or before 9 June are eligible to vote, except those who are: subject to statutory disqualification; suspended from the service of the House; or on leave of absence.

### ***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 Friday 28 May. Ten candidates registered to stand in this by-election; a list is below. Candidates were invited but not required to submit a written statement of up to 75 words; those statements are also below.

### ***Voting timetable***

This by-election will be conducted 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 15 June from [takepart@cesvotes.com](mailto:takepart@cesvotes.com). The subject line will be: "Mar by-election – voting link."

The email will contain instructions on how votes can be cast online in this election. Members will be instructed to click on a link in the email which will direct them to a login page for the secure website. Members can then click through to the voting page where details of the candidates standing in the election are available. Once the Member has made their selection they will be asked to confirm their votes before submission.

Voting will take place online from 10am on Tuesday 15 June until 5pm on Wednesday 16 June. It is expected that the result will be announced in the chamber on Thursday 17 June.

Ballot papers will be sent by Civica Election Services to members who have registered for postal votes on Friday 4 June 2021. Completed postal ballot papers should be received by Civica Election Services no later than 5 pm on Wednesday 16 June 2021.

### ***Voting system***

The by-election will be conducted via a secret ballot. 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 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 (likely to be after oral questions) on Thursday 17 June 2021.

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](http://www.parliament.uk)

4 June 2021

SIMON BURTON  
*Clerk of the Parliaments*

## List of candidates

Albemarle, E.  
Birkett, L.  
Chorley, L.  
De Clifford, L.  
Effingham, E.  
Hampton, L.  
Londesborough, L.  
Meston, L.  
Milverton, L.  
Somerleyton, L.

## Candidature statements

### **Albemarle, E.**

The youngest Cross Bench peer in the House of Lords 1988-1999.

Designer for 30 years in London, Milan and New York. Working in the creative fields of graphics, packaging, industrial design and product development.

Currently splitting my time between London as a creative consultant and East Sussex running a farming business.

My industrial design and agricultural management skills and experience offer strong contribution to the development of a post Brexit, competitive, modern industrial strategy.

### **Birkett, L.**

I would be honoured to take a seat in the House to help shape our country's environmental impact and to ensure that we keep a prosperous and beautiful land. I would also focus on the Arts to maintain our world renowned lead in this field.

### **Chorley, L.**

I bring:

30 years' experience leading public-sector Digital-Transformation projects, especially mission-critical systems for the Emergency Services, from the seeds sown in procurement to the continuous improvement provided by long-term relationships.

A lifetime's experience of neurodiversity's challenges/benefits in education and employment through mine, and my children's, Dyslexia/ADHD.

Conviction of the Union's value to all and the North-of-England's key contribution; and with Scottish and Cumbrian roots I will be a committed and regular contributor to the House.

### **De Clifford, L.**

With an accountancy background and 27-year career in small business ownership both in the property and veterinary sectors. Currently a Director and practise manager of a large independent veterinary group based in Wiltshire. Also, director of the veterinary management group which support the improvement of management and leadership in the sector.

Political independent, if elected the house it would be my principal focus. Interest would be, young people, veterinary and small business.

### **Effingham, E.**

I have experience and expertise in ex service organisations, Royal Navy operations, Aus/Can/UK/US. Was active Crossbencher: contributed to RBL matters as former National

President. Was active debating in Gulf War illness made significant contribution to Questions for Oral Answers in the round. I am fully qualified to be a candidate.

**Hampton, L.**

Head of department and design technology teacher in a high performing state school in Hackney, East London. Passionate believer in the rôle of mainstream education as one of the most important drivers of social change. Former professional photographer working in, and setting up media agencies selling to FTSE 100 companies and beyond. ECB Level 2 cricket coach having worked in primary schools for Chance to Shine and at the local cricket club.

**Londesborough, L.**

Within one week in 1999, I took my Crossbench seat and made my single maiden-vaedictory speech, days before the hereditary election reforms.

Formerly a correspondent in Iran and Mexico, I founded Business Monitor International in 1991, analysing global emerging markets, creating 300 jobs and winning Queen's Award for Exports.

A hands-on entrepreneur and experienced public speaker, I now mentor multi-sector start-ups.

Standing for the first time, I would be an active, engaged member.

**Meston, L.**

Practising barrister from 1973 (QC 1996) until 1999 (mainly family law). Then a Circuit Judge until 2020.

Second in last Crossbench by-election.

Active Member of Lords 1984-1999, latterly a Crossbencher.

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

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

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

Would commit fully to involvement in the Lords – London base.

**Milverton, L.**

To be as objective and reasonable as possible.

**Somerleyton, L.**

22 years experience and entrepreneurship in hospitality and in East Anglia, 15 years practical experience in rural affairs, agriculture, environment, tourism and housing (both under-represented on cross-benches) special interests - 'the nature need' in our hard-working landscapes, sustainable rural regeneration, 'naturecation' & sustainable justice for Palestine. Founder WildEast Foundation - multi-sector regional scale alliance driving a 'human nature recovery network' to ensure greatest benefits for nature, communities & sustainable farming.