



## Hereditary Peers' By-elections, July 2011: Results

In the by-election following the death of Lord Amphill, a total of 313 valid votes were cast. There were 3 spoilt ballot papers. 769 Members of the House were eligible to vote. Of the 20 candidates, 18 received one or more first-preference votes. After 14 transfers of votes, the voting for the final 2 candidates was as follows:

Viscount Colville of Culross	126
The Duke of Somerset	104

The successful candidate was therefore **Viscount Colville of Culross**.

Overleaf are details of the votes cast for each candidate at each stage of the count. The left-hand column lists all 20 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 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 Hylton and Lord Tunnicliffe acted as scrutineers.

Candidate	1st preference votes	Votes after transfers													
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Albemarle, E. (Crossbench)	3	3	X												
Biddulph, L. (Conservative)	1	X													
Cadman, L. (Crossbench)	3	3	3	X											
Carlisle, E. (Liberal Democrat)	12	12	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	X				
Colville of Culross, V. (Crossbench)	77	77	78	78	78	78	79	79	80	80	81	88	94	101	126
Cromwell, L. (Crossbench)	4	4	4	4	5	X									
Hacking, L. (Crossbench)	52	52	52	52	52	54	54	56	56	57	59	60	66	73	X
Hood, V. (Crossbench)	5	5	5	6	6	6	X								
Kennet, L. (Liberal Democrat)	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	18	18	19	26	26	X		
Killearn, L. (Conservative)	3	3	3	3	X										
Kinnoull, E. (L. Hay) (Conservative)	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	X							
Limerick, E. (L. Foxford) (Conservative)	6	7	7	7	7	7	7	9	12	X					
Margadale, L. (Conservative)	5	6	6	6	7	7	7	8	X						
Napier of Magdála, L. (Crossbench)	0X														
Rowallan, L. (Conservative)	0X														
Shaftesbury, E. (Crossbench)	12	13	13	13	13	14	16	16	16	17	18	X			
Somerset, D. (Crossbench)	76	76	76	76	76	78	78	78	79	80	81	86	91	98	104
Stockton, E. (Conservative)	28	28	29	29	29	29	29	29	30	33	33	33	38	X	
Tryon, L. (Crossbench)	1	X													
Vivian, L. (Conservative)	1	X													
VOTES EXCLUDED AT EACH STAGE	-	0	0	2	1	0	3	1	2	5	1	5	4	17	42
TOTAL CONTINUING VOTES AT EACH STAGE	313	313	313	311	310	310	307	306	304	299	298	293	289	272	230
VOTES NEEDED IN ORDER TO BE ELECTED	157	157	157	156	155	155	154	153	152	150	149	147	145	136	115