

17 December 2018

Hereditary peers' by-election

This notice confirms the arrangements for the by-election following the death of Lord Skelmersdale. It includes a list of candidates and candidature statements.

Electorate

Lord Skelmersdale 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 10(3), his 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.

All members of the House who have taken the oath 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 the hereditary peers on the register maintained by the Clerk of the Parliaments.

The deadline for registration of candidature was 5pm on Monday 17 December 2018.

Sixteen candidates registered to stand in this by-election. A list is below.

Candidates were invited, but not required, to indicate a party or group affiliation, and to submit candidature statements of up to 75 words. The affiliations and statements are below.

Voting timetable

Voting for the by-election will be on Tuesday 22 January 2019, between 10am and 8pm in The Queen's Robing Room.

Members who have requested a postal vote will be sent a ballot paper by Electoral Reform Services on Wednesday 19 December 2018. Notice of candidates and statements will be published on Thursday 20 December 2018.

Completed postal votes should be returned to the Clerk of the Parliaments' Office either by post or in person by 5pm on Tuesday 22 January 2019. Ballot papers received after this time will not be counted. Electors should use the pre-addressed envelopes sent with postal 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 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.

Count and result

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 23 January 2019.

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

ED OLLARD
Clerk of the Parliaments

List of Candidates

Ashcombe, L.

(Conservative)

Biddulph, L.

(Conservative)

Cadman, L.

(No party/group affiliation declared)

Carnarvon, E.

(Conservative)

Effingham, E.

(Crossbench)

Hampton, L.

(Crossbench)

Leicester, E.

(Conservative)

Mountgarret, V. (*Mountgarret, L.*)

(Conservative)

Napier and Ettrick, L.

(Conservative)

Oranmore and Browne, L. (*Meresworth, L.*)

(Crossbench)

Powerscourt, V. (*Powerscourt, L.*)

(Crossbench)

Reay, L.

(Conservative)

Southampton, L.

(Crossbench)

Stockton, E.

(Conservative)

Strathcarron, L.

(Conservative)

Windleham, L.

(Conservative)

Ashcombe, L. (Conservative)

Trained as a civil engineer, my career has been in the insurance industry. I currently manage the North American division of Marsh's energy specialty. I have the time, energy and deep commitment to be a consistent attender and contributor and have attended ACP meetings assiduously for three years. I live in London and Hampshire, am married with two sons, race on the Solent, garden enthusiastically and have experience of fundraising.

Biddulph, L. (Conservative)

Always willing to serve.

Cadman, L. (No party/group affiliation declared)

No statement submitted.

Carnarvon, E. (Conservative)

My contribution to debates and committees in the House of Lords would be based on my wide experience of small business, farming, tourism and countryside/heritage matters in running and developing Highclere Estate. Also I have been an investor in and worked in small software and technology companies. We have an international outlook to the world at Highclere via our online presence and using our IP & Trade Marks are developing new products for the US & global markets.

Effingham, E. (Crossbench)

Former National President the Royal British Legion, leading ex-service charity. Have outstanding knowledge. Activities include, in particular, welfare. This includes disabilities, wheelchairs, pension advice, fundraising, remembrance, care homes, pressures, shortfalls.

I'm a retired naval commander. Have very good experience, group deployments, NATO exercises on passage. All these skills are fully transferable to the public sector.

In the round have made positive contribution to debates including Gulf War illnesses.

In summary, believe that well qualified to sit in House.

Hampton, L. (Crossbench)

State secondary academy teacher living and working in Hackney. Former media business owner advising NGOs and FTSE companies. Cricket coach at local club. Passionate about the importance of design and sport in the future of the UK.

Leicester, E. (Conservative)

After twenty-five years of tireless work in Norfolk, the family business (Holkham Estate) is flourishing.

This allows me time to put experience gained there (farming, environment, renewable energy, property development, heritage, community engagement,

tourism and leadership) to good use in government and the legislature. I have served on numerous committees, rising to chair many.

Mountgarret, V. (*Mountgarret, L.*) (Conservative)

My previous statements still hold very true and my interest in the political spectrum remains unbowed, especially given these crucial and vitally important times.

Napier and Ettrick, L. (Conservative)

I believe that my life experience as someone who has succeeded in business despite significant challenges, due to a severe hearing impairment, would enable me to make a distinctive and valuable contribution to the House. I believe that a more representative House is a stronger House, both in terms of quality of debate but also, in relation to public perception. My election could help challenge popular preconceptions and strengthen the House. Regular and diligent attendee.

Oranmore and Browne, L. (*Mereworth, L.*) (Crossbench)

My grandfather Lord Oranmore was created Lord Mereworth of UK and received the highest honour awarded to any Irishman, KP (Knight of St Patrick), for his efforts to establish the unity of England and Ireland.

Like my grandfather I have a strong sense of duty to serve as an ambassador for unity and peace in this this divided society.

I have at heart a passion for the betterment of the social conditions of this country.

Powerscourt, V. (*L. Powerscourt*) (Crossbench)

Having originally trained as a Technical Illustrator, qualified as a Graphic Designer and later as a Secondary School Art Teacher – it was only as a listening volunteer with Samaritans that I realised my true vocation – and am now a BACP registered counsellor.

Having been Lead Counsellor at the University of South Wales, I now run a successful private practice in Cardiff. This allows me the flexibility to attend the House two days a week.

Reay, L. (Conservative)

My career expertise derives from 30 years in the financial services sector in London and New York, at investment banks and boutique corporate firms (including my own), with a focus on advising UK and international businesses. I am a board member of three technology companies.

Based predominantly in London and partially in rural Lancashire, I will be able to devote as much time to the House as required.

Southampton, L. (Crossbench)

No statement submitted.

Stockton, E. (Conservative)

As a member of Your Lordships' House from 1986 until the reform of the House, I am familiar with the workings of the House.

After a career in journalism, culminating as European Correspondent of the Sunday Telegraph, I joined Macmillan Publishers. I retired as Chairman in 2000. I represented S.W. Region in the European Parliament 1999-2004.

With bi-lingual French and conversational Spanish and German I feel I can make a contribution to the House in the Brexit and post-Brexit future.

Strathcarron, L. (Conservative)

I am a Conservative, a member of the ACP and CP, participating in the New Forest East constituency, with an appreciation of the core values of optimism, self-sufficiency, individual freedom and free enterprise.

I am a biographer, historian and global publisher. As such I believe that if invited I can be useful to the International Relations and Communications committees, as well as pulling my weight in the day-to-day life of a working peer.

Windlesham, L. (Conservative)

Having worked in the City since University I have more recently operated as a consultant, assisting various clients with financing and business development.

In the voluntary sector I am an ambassador and occasional co-opted trustee for the ex-services/educational charity SkillForce and serve as treasurer for Spencer Cricket Club in South West London.

I would be willing and able to commit as much time as necessary to supporting the Government in the House of Lords.