

Baroness Smith of Basildon, Leader of the House of Lords  
Lord True, Leader of His Majesty's Official Opposition in the House of Lords  
Lord Newby, Leader of the Liberal Democrats in the House of Lords

12th April 2025

Dear Party Leader,

The House of Lords is in serious need of reform. More political allies and party donors being added to the House of Lords only damages its reputation further.

**We welcome the Hereditary Peers Bill, but it falls short of making the necessary reforms to the House of Lords.**

Please can your party propose and support amendments to the Bill that seek to strengthen the powers of the House of Lords Appointments Commission (HOLAC) so that Prime Ministers are not able to force through unsuitable peers against the advice of the Commission.

Please can your party propose and support amendments to cap the size of the House of Lords. It should not be larger than the House of Commons. The size of the House of Lords is spiralling out of control, with more than 70 new peers added since July's General Election.

The Government's election manifesto promised to consult the public on replacing the House of Lords with an alternative, more representative, second chamber.

**Please can your party propose an amendment to the Hereditary Peers Bill to commit the Government to beginning the public consultation within the next year.**

I look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely,



Tom Brake - Director of Unlock Democracy