
Committee Stage: Thursday 16 September 2021

Elections Bill (Committee Stage Decisions)

This document sets out the fate of each clause, schedule, amendment and new clause considered at committee stage. A glossary with key terms can be found at the end of this document.

First to Fourth Sittings

FIRST AND SECOND SITTINGS

Agreed to

Chloe Smith

That—

- (1) the Committee shall (in addition to its first meeting at 9.25 am on Wednesday 15 September) meet—
- (a) at 2.00 pm on Wednesday 15 September;
 - (b) at 11.30 am and 2.00 pm on Thursday 16 September;
 - (c) at 9.25 am and 2.00 pm on Wednesday 22 September;
 - (d) at 9.25 am and 2.00 pm on Tuesday 19 October;
 - (e) at 11.30 am and 2.00 pm on Thursday 21 October;
 - (f) at 9.25 am and 2.00 pm on Tuesday 26 October;
 - (g) at 11.30 am and 2.00 pm on Thursday 28 October;
 - (h) at 9.25 am and 2.00 pm on Wednesday 3 November;
- (2) the Committee shall hear oral evidence in accordance with the following Table:

Date	Time	Witness
Wednesday 15 September	Until no later than 10.25 am	The Rt Hon Lord Pickles; Henderson Chambers
Wednesday 15 September	Until no later than 11.25 am	Councillor Peter Golds; National Police Chiefs' Council; Gillian Beasley, Peterborough City Council
Wednesday 15 September	Until no later than 2.30 pm	Professor David Howarth, Professor of Law and Public Policy, University of Cambridge; Blackstone Chambers

Date	Time	Witness
Wednesday 15 September	Until no later than 3.15 pm	The Electoral Office of Northern Ireland; The Electoral Commission; Association of Electoral Administrators
Wednesday 15 September	Until no later than 4.00 pm	SOLACE; Birmingham City Council
Wednesday 15 September	Until no later than 5.00 pm	Dr Kate Dommett, Department of Politics and International Relations, The University of Sheffield; Professor Justin Fisher, Director of Public Policy, Brunel University London; Darren Grimes
Thursday 16 September	Until no later than 12.15 pm	Conservatives Abroad; Liberal Democrats Overseas; Labour International
Thursday 16 September	Until no later than 1.00 pm	Race on the Agenda
Thursday 16 September	Until no later than 2.45 pm	Matrix Chambers
Thursday 16 September	Until no later than 3.30 pm	Disability Rights UK
Thursday 16 September	Until no later than 4.30 pm	Dr Alan Renwick, Deputy Director of the University College London Constitution Unit

(3) proceedings on consideration of the Bill in Committee shall be taken in the following order: Clause 1; Schedule 1; Clause 2; Schedule 2; Clauses 3 to 5; Schedule 3; Clauses 6 and 7; Schedule 4; Clauses 8 and 9; Schedule 5; Clause 10; Schedule 6; Clause 11; Schedule 7; Clauses 12 to 26; Schedule 8; Clauses 27 to 34; Schedule 9; Clauses 35 to 43; Schedule 10; Clauses 44 to 48; Schedule 11; Clauses 49 to 62; new Clauses; new Schedules; remaining proceedings on the Bill;

(4) the proceedings shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion at 5.00 pm on Wednesday 3 November.

Chloe Smith

Agreed to

That, subject to the discretion of the Chair, any written evidence received by the Committee shall be reported to the House for publication..

Chloe Smith

Agreed to

That, at this and any subsequent meeting at which oral evidence is to be heard, the Committee shall sit in private until the witnesses are admitted.

The following Witnesses gave oral evidence:

Richard Mawrey QC; and Rt Hon Lord Pickles

Councillor Peter Golds, Leader of the Conservative Group, London Borough of Tower Hamlets council; Gillian Beasley, Chief Executive and Returning Officer, Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority; and Assistant Chief Constable Gary Cann QPM, NPCC Portfolio Lead for Election-Related Crime, National Police Chiefs' Council

Virginia McVea, Chief Electoral Officer, Electoral Office for Northern Ireland; Ailsa Irvine, Director of Electoral Administration and Guidance, Electoral Commission; and Peter Stanyon, Chief Executive, Association of Electoral Administrators

Louise Round, spokesperson for Elections and Democratic Renewal, Solace; and Rob Connolly, Returning Officer, Birmingham City Council

Dr Kate Dommett, Senior Lecturer in the Public Understanding of Politics, The University of Sheffield; Darren Grimes; and Professor Justin Fisher, Director of Public Policy, Brunel University

THIRD AND FOURTH SITTINGS

The following Witnesses gave oral evidence:

Heather Harper MBE, Chairman, Conservatives Abroad; George Cunningham, Chair, Liberal Democrats Overseas; Anne Wafer, Communications and Social Media Officer, Labour International

Maurice Mcleod, Chief Executive, Race on the Agenda

Gavin Millar QC, Matrix Chambers

Fazilet Hadi, Head of Policy, Disability Rights UK

Dr Alan Renwick, Deputy Director, Constitution Unit, University College London

Adjourned until Wednesday 22 September at 9.25 am

Glossary

Added: New Clause agreed without a vote and added to the Bill.

Agreed to: agreed without a vote.

Agreed to on division: agreed following a vote.

Negated: rejected without a vote.

Negated on division: rejected following a vote.

Not called: debated in a group of amendments, but not put to a decision.

Not moved: not debated or put to a decision.

Question proposed: debate underway but not concluded.

Withdrawn after debate: moved and debated but then withdrawn, so not put to a decision.

Not selected: not chosen for debate by the Chair.
