

# House of Lords (Hereditary Peers) Bill

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MARSHALLED  
LIST OF AMENDMENTS  
TO BE MOVED  
ON REPORT

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[Amendments marked ★ are new or have been altered]

Amendment  
No.

Clause 1

LORD ROBERTS OF BELGRAVIA  
LORD HOWARD OF RISING  
LORD MOORE OF ETCHINGHAM

- 1 Clause 1, page 1, line 1, at end insert –
- “(A1) In section 1 of the House of Lords Act 1999 (exclusion of hereditary peers), at end insert “, except for the Earl Marshal and the Lord Great Chamberlain”.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment seeks to retain the Earl Marshal and the Lord Great Chamberlain as members of the House of Lords with the right to sit and vote.*

LORD PARKINSON OF WHITLEY BAY  
BARONESS LAING OF ELDERSLIE  
LORD VERDIRAME

- 2 Leave out Clause 1 and insert the following new Clause –
- “Abolition of by-elections for hereditary peers**
- (1) Section 2 of the House of Lords Act 1999 (exception from section 1) is amended as follows.
- (2) For subsection (2) substitute –
- “(2) No more than 87 people at any one time shall be excepted from section 1.”

(3) For subsection (4) substitute –

“(4) Any vacancy resulting from the death, retirement, resignation or expulsion of an excepted person under subsection (2) after the day on which the House of Lords (Hereditary Peers) Act 2025 comes into force is not to be filled by further exception.””

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment would amend the House of Lords Act 1999 to abolish the system of by-elections for hereditary peers. This would prevent any new hereditary peers from joining the House, while allowing those who are presently serving in the House to remain. It follows the proposals of the House of Lords (Hereditary Peers) (Abolition of By-Elections) Bill.*

LORD STRATHCLYDE

3 Leave out Clause 1 and insert the following new Clause –

**“Election of temporal members of the House of Lords**

- (1) In section 1 of the Life Peerages Act 1958 (power to confer life peerages) –
  - (a) in subsection (2)(a) omit “; and”;
  - (b) omit subsection (2)(b).
- (2) Within three months of the day on which this Act comes into force, 600 peers who were in receipt of a writ to sit in the Parliament in which this Act is passed shall be identified to sit in the House of Lords by elections conducted in accordance with standing orders of the House of Lords.
- (3) Similar elections to choose 600 members of the House of Lords shall be held on the first meeting of each new Parliament and the eligibility for any such election shall be –
  - (a) any peer who is eligible for election under subsection (2), and
  - (b) any peer who has received a writ of summons for Parliament since the day on which this Act comes into effect.
- (4) Any peer not elected in the elections specified in subsections (2) and (3) shall be excluded from the House of Lords for the rest of that Parliament, although they may be included in accordance with subsection (5) and are eligible to stand for election to sit in subsequent Parliaments if in receipt of a writ of summons for that Parliament.
- (5) In the event of the death, exclusion or retirement of any peer elected to sit in elections specified in subsections (2) and (3), their place will be filled for the rest of that Parliament by the peer who was not elected who received the highest number of votes in any list or lists of candidates for election produced by the Clerk of the Parliaments for the purpose of these elections.
- (6) The standing orders referred to in subsection (2) shall provide for –
  - (a) 480 members of political parties, allocated by the average share of total votes cast for each party for membership of the House of Commons in the previous three general elections, chosen among party groups, and

- (b) 120 members who are not a member of any political party (“crossbench and non-affiliated members”), to be elected by the whole House.
- (7) Should the leader of any party indicate that their party did not wish to have members in the House of Lords then the vote share of that party shall not count in the allocation provided for under subsection (6)(a).
- (8) Should any party have a share of the total votes specified in subsection (6)(a) which is greater than the current number of members of the House affiliated to that party, then new peerages may be created under the Life Peerages Act 1958 to provide for those places to be filled.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to reduce the size of the House of Lords to 600 peers through elections conducted in accordance with standing orders that would provide for 480 members of political parties, chosen among party groups, and 120 crossbench and non-affiliated members, to be elected by the whole House.*

**After Clause 1**

LORD NEWBY  
LORD WALLACE OF SALTAIRE  
BARONESS SMITH OF LLANFAES  
LORD STRATHCLYDE

**4** After Clause 1, insert the following new Clause –

**“Duty to take forward proposals for democratic mandate for House of Lords**

- (1) It is the duty of the Secretary of State to take forward proposals to secure a democratic mandate for the House of Lords.
- (2) In pursuance of the duty under subsection (1), the Secretary of State must carry out the steps set out in subsections (3), (4), (5) and (6).
- (3) Within 12 months of the day on which this Act is passed, the Secretary of State must lay before each House of Parliament a consultation paper on methods for introducing directly elected members in the House of Lords.
- (4) After laying the consultation paper under subsection (3), the Secretary of State must seek the views on the matters covered by that paper of –
  - (a) each party and group in the House of Lords,
  - (b) each political party represented in the House of Commons,
  - (c) the Scottish Government,
  - (d) the Welsh Government,
  - (e) the Northern Ireland Executive,
  - (f) local authorities in the United Kingdom,
  - (g) representative organisations for local authorities in the United Kingdom,
  - (h) the general public, which may include citizens’ assemblies, and

- (j) such other persons and bodies as the Secretary of State considers appropriate.
- (5) Within 16 months of the day on which this Act is passed, the Secretary of State must lay before each House of Parliament a report on responses to the consultation.
- (6) Within 18 months of the day on which this Act is passed, the Secretary of State must lay before each House of Parliament a draft Bill containing legislative proposals on the matter mentioned in subsection (3)."

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This new Clause imposes a duty on Ministers to take forward proposals to secure a democratic mandate for the House of Lords through introduction of directly elected members.*

LORD NEWBY  
LORD WALLACE OF SALTAIRE  
VISCOUNT HAILSHAM  
VISCOUNT THURSO

5 After Clause 1, insert the following new Clause —

**“Life peerages not to be conferred against recommendation of the House of Lords  
Appointments Commission**

- (1) The Life Peerages Act 1958 is amended as follows.
- (2) In section 1 (power to confer life peerages), after subsection (1) insert —
  - “(1A) The power under subsection (1) may not be exercised in relation to a person if the House of Lords Appointments Commission has written to the Prime Minister to recommend that a peerage should not be conferred on that person.””

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This new Clause would prevent a life peerage being conferred on a person if the House of Lords Appointments Commission has recommended against the appointment.*

VISCOUNT HAILSHAM  
THE EARL OF DUNDEE

6 After Clause 1, insert the following new Clause —

**“House of Lords Appointments Commission: recommendations for life peerages**

In the Life Peerages Act 1958, after section 1(1) (power to confer life peerages) insert —

- “(1A) No recommendation may be made to His Majesty to confer a life peerage except by the House of Lords Appointments Commission.
- (1B) No such recommendation may be made by that Commission unless the Commission is satisfied that the person to be recommended —

- (a) is a fit and proper person to sit and vote in the House of Lords and will participate appropriately in its business, and
- (b) is willing to swear an oath committing that for all things that are moved, treated and debated in the House of Lords, they will faithfully and truly declare their mind and opinion, according to their heart and conscience.””

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to ensure that life peerages can only be conferred by the King on the advice of the House of Lords Appointments Commission (not of the Prime Minister) and that the person recommended (1) is a fit and proper person to be a member of the House, (2) will participate appropriately in the House's business and (3) will be willing to swear an oath similar to that avowed by Privy Councillors.*

VISCOUNT HAILSHAM

7 After Clause 1, insert the following new Clause –

**“Term limits and retirement age**

- (1) A member of the House of Lords who has sat in the House by virtue of a life peerage for 15 years or more ceases to be a member of the House of Lords at the end of that Session of Parliament.
- (2) A member of the House of Lords who reaches the age of 85 during a Session of Parliament ceases to be a member of the House of Lords at the end of that Session.”

THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON  
BARONESS ALTMANN  
BARONESS PARMINTER  
LORD STRATHCLYDE

8 After Clause 1, insert the following new Clause –

**“Further reform of the composition of the House of Lords**

Within two years of the day on which this Act is passed, the Secretary of State must lay before Parliament a draft Bill containing legislative proposals for further reform of the composition of the House of Lords.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment would require the Government to lay before Parliament a further bill to reform the House of Lords after the removal of hereditary peers.*

BARONESS GOLDIE  
LORD TRUE  
BARONESS FINN  
LORD HUNT OF WIRRAL

9 After Clause 1, insert the following new Clause —

**“Life peerages for hereditary peers**

- (1) Within three months of the day on which this Act is passed, the Leader of the House of Lords, having consulted with the Convenor of the Crossbench Peers and the Leaders of the Conservative, Labour and Liberal Democrat parties, must submit to the Prime Minister a list of those excepted hereditary peers who wish to continue to serve as members of the House of Lords as life peers (and will if relevant resign from their position in the House as excepted hereditary peers in order to do so).
- (2) Within three months of receiving the list, the Prime Minister must recommend to His Majesty the King that all excepted hereditary peers on it be granted a life peerage under section 1 of the Life Peerages Act 1958 (power to confer life peerages).”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to grant life peerages to current hereditary peers who wish to continue to serve as members of the House of Lords, while accepting the end of the hereditary principle as a route of entry to the House of Lords.*

LORD KEEN OF ELIE  
LORD WOLFSON OF TREDEGAR  
LORD MURRAY OF BLIDWORTH

10 After Clause 1, insert the following new Clause —

**“Lord Chancellor**

In the case of any person who holds the office of Lord High Chancellor of Great Britain who is not currently a member of the House of Lords, the Prime Minister must recommend to His Majesty the King that the person be granted a life peerage under section 1 of the Life Peerages Act 1958 (power to confer life peerages).”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment would ensure that the Lord Chancellor is a member of the House of Lords, as was the case for over two centuries leading up to the passage of the Constitutional Reform Act 2005.*

## LORD LUCAS

11 After Clause 1, insert the following new Clause –

**“No majority for one party in the House of Lords**

After section 1 of the Life Peerages Act 1958, insert –

**“1A No majority for one party in the House of Lords**

- (1) An appointment may not be made to the House of Lords if it would have the effect of taking the total number of peers from parties forming part of the Government to more than 40% of the total members of that House.
- (2) If at any time the number of peers from parties forming part of the Government exceeds 40% of the total members of the House of Lords, no appointments to the parties forming part of the Government may be made until that number is reduced below 40% either by resignation, new appointments or leave of absence.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment seeks to limit the unfettered power of Prime Ministers to make appointments to the House of Lords.*

## LORD BLENCATHRA

12 After Clause 1, insert the following new Clause –

**“Removal of peers with a criminal conviction**

Any peer convicted of a criminal offence on indictment ceases to be a member of the House of Lords within seven days of the conviction, or the loss of appeal if the peer appeals the conviction.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment intends to ensure that peers who have committed a serious offence are removed from the House, using an indictable offence to provide a clear threshold.*

LORD TRUE  
LORD FORSYTH OF DRUMLEAN

13 After Clause 1, insert the following new Clause –

**“Unsalariated Ministers**

No one who is a Minister of the Crown shall be eligible for membership of the House of Lords unless they are in receipt of, or have been offered, a salary under the Ministerial and Other Salaries Act 1975.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment would mean that unpaid Ministers would not be eligible for membership of the House, effectively requiring all Lords Ministers to be paid.*

## LORD BLENCATHRA

14 After Clause 1, insert the following new Clause—

**“Legislating for changes to the composition of the House of Lords**

- (1) Where a resolution of the House of Lords establishes or changes—
  - (a) the age at which peers must retire,
  - (b) a minimum attendance requirement, or
  - (c) a participation requirement,a relevant Minister must, within 12 months, take the action set out in subsection (2).
- (2) Where a resolution is passed by the House of Lords in accordance with subsection (1) (a “relevant resolution”), the Secretary of State must, by regulations made by statutory instrument, amend the following Acts, as appropriate, in order to translate the relevant resolution into statute—
  - (a) this Act;
  - (b) the Life Peerages Act 1958;
  - (c) the House of Lords Reform Act 2014.
- (3) A statutory instrument containing regulations under this section may not be made unless a draft of the instrument has been laid before, and approved by a resolution of, each House of Parliament.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to establish changes regarding the composition of the House in law, while allowing the House flexibility to change them.*

BARONESS MOBARIK  
BARONESS JONES OF MOULSECOOMB

15 After Clause 1, insert the following new Clause—

**“Life peerages to be nominated by party groups**

- (1) Within three months of this Act coming into force, the Prime Minister must recommend to His Majesty the King that the following be granted a life peerage under section 1 of the Life Peerages Act 1958 (power to confer life peerages)—
  - (a) 20 excepted hereditary peers proposed by the Crossbench Group in the House of Lords,
  - (b) 30 excepted hereditary peers proposed by the Leader of the Conservative Party,
  - (c) 3 excepted hereditary peers proposed by the Leader of the Labour Party, and
  - (d) 3 excepted hereditary peers proposed by the Leader of the Liberal Democrat Party.
- (2) Any excepted hereditary peer granted a life peerage after recommendation under this section will be deemed to have resigned from their position in the House as



an excepted hereditary peer on the day on which section 1 of this Act comes into force.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment would require the Prime Minister to recommend life peerages for a proportion of hereditary peers, nominated by the leaders of their respective groups. It proposes a structured, time-limited process to grant life peerages to some hereditary peers. It supports the Government's aim to phase out hereditary peers while recognising the experience and contribution of longstanding members.*

LORD ASHTON OF HYDE  
LORD KEEN OF ELIE  
LORD GARNIER  
LORD PANNICK

16 After Clause 1, insert the following new Clause –

**“Retirement from the House of Lords**

In section 1(2)(b) of the House of Lords Reform Act 2014, after “peer” insert “or a person holding a lasting power of attorney for that peer”.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment allows for a person holding a lasting power of attorney for a peer to sign on their behalf when notifying the Clerk of the Parliaments of the peer's retirement.*

LORD TRUE  
BARONESS FINN  
LORD LUCAS  
LORD BLENCATHRA

17 After Clause 1, insert the following new Clause –

**“Rights of life peers to sit in the House of Lords**

- (1) Section 1 of the Life Peerages Act 1958 (power to confer life peerages) is amended as follows.
- (2) At the end of subsection (1) insert “, and, as the case may be, the incidents specified in subsection (2A) of this section”.
- (3) Omit from “and” in subsection (2)(a) to the end of subsection (2)(b).
- (4) After subsection (2), insert –

“(2A) A peerage conferred under this section may, if the letters patent so state, during the life of the person on whom it is conferred, entitle him, subject to subsection (4) of this section, to receive writs of summons to attend the House of Lords and sit and vote therein accordingly, and shall expire on his death.””

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment would make it possible to create a life peerage without a seat in parliament under the Life Peerages Act 1958.*

THE EARL OF KINNOULL  
LORD BLENCATHRA

18 After Clause 1, insert the following new Clause —

**“Non-attendance**

In section 2 of the House of Lords Reform Act 2014 (non-attendance) —

- (a) in subsection (1), after the second “Lords”, insert “for 10% or more of sitting days”;
- (b) in subsection (2), after “Lords”, insert “for 10% or more of sitting days”;
- (c) in subsection (2)(a), leave out “at no time during the Session attended the House” and insert “attended the House for fewer than 10% of sitting days during the Session”.

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment will ensure that Peers would be required to sit at a minimum for more than 10% of the House's sitting days in order to maintain their membership of this House.*

THE EARL OF DEVON

19 After Clause 1, insert the following new Clause —

**“House of Lords Appointments Commission: recommendations for life peerages**

In the Life Peerages Act 1958, after section 1(1) (power to confer life peerages) insert —

- “(1A) During the period of five years following the day on which the House of Lords (Hereditary Peers) Act 2025 comes into force, the House of Lords Appointments Commission may recommend to His Majesty that up to 20 life peerages be conferred on persons who intend to sit in the House of Lords as independent, unaffiliated or non-party Peers.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to encourage the use of the House of Lords Appointments Commission as the means by which members of the Cross Benches are appointed following the removal of Hereditary Peers.*

## THE EARL OF DEVON

20 After Clause 1, insert the following new Clause—

**“Retirement**

In section 1(2)(b) of the Life Peerages Act 1958 (power to confer life peerages), after “accordingly”, insert “until the age of 80, or the tenth anniversary of their introduction to the House, whichever is the later”.

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment will ensure that Peers would be required to retire either at the age of 80 years, or after 10 years of membership, whichever is later. This will allow members that join after the age of 70 to sit for at least a decade.*

## VISCOUNT THURSO

21 After Clause 1, insert the following new Clause—

**“Expiry of right to receive writ of summons**

- (1) The Life Peerages Act 1958 is amended as follows.
- (2) In section 1(2)(b) omit “subsection (4)” and insert “subsections (4) and (5).”
- (3) After subsection (4) insert—
  - “(5) For peerages granted after the end of the Parliament in which the House of Lords (Hereditary Peers) Act 2025 is passed, the right to receive a writ of summons expires on the twentieth anniversary of the introduction of the person holding the peerage into the House of Lords.”.

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment introduces a term limit for peerages created after the end of this Parliament by limiting the right to receive a writ of summons to 20 years. It has no effect on existing peerages.*

## LORD BRADY OF ALTRINCHAM

22 After Clause 1, insert the following new Clause—

**“Future composition of the House of Lords: elections by constituency**

The Secretary of State must, within six months of the day on which this Act is passed, lay before Parliament a draft Bill containing legislative proposals for—

- (a) a limit on membership of the House of Lords,
- (b) geographical constituencies, determined by the boundary commission, for members of the House of Lords, and
- (c) first-past-the-post elections to be held for membership of the House of Lords two years after elections are held for the House of Commons.”

## LORD BURNS

23★ After Clause 1, insert the following new Clause—

**“Restriction on nominating new life peers**

- (1) In the period between the commencement of this Act and the first General Election thereafter, the number of recommendations made to His Majesty for the granting of new life peerages under section 1 of the Life Peerages Act 1958 (power to confer life peerages) must not exceed one new peer for every life peer who leaves the House through retirement or death.
- (2) Following the first General Election after the commencement of this Act, and for as long as the membership of the House of Lords exceeds the membership of the House of Commons, the number of recommendations made to His Majesty for the granting of new life peerages under section 1 of the Life Peerages Act 1958 must not exceed one new peer for every two life peers who leave the House through retirement or death.
- (3) Once the membership of the House of Lords is equal to or less than the membership of the House of Commons, recommendations made to His Majesty for the granting of new life peerages under section 1 of that Act must not be such that they would cause the membership of the House of Lords to exceed the membership of the House of Commons.”

**Clause 2**

LORD WOLFSON OF TREDEGAR  
LORD MOYNIHAN  
LORD KEEN OF ELIE

24 Clause 2, page 1, line 8, at end insert—

- “(3) Any peerage claim is to be made to His Majesty in Council.
- (4) A claim under this section must be made in accordance with such rules as His Majesty may by Order in Council prescribe.
  - (5) Section 3 of the Judicial Committee Act 1833 (reference to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council of appeals to His Majesty in Council) applies to a claim under this section as it applies to an appeal to His Majesty in Council from a court.
  - (6) The Judicial Committee may require an applicant to give such security for the costs of the proceedings as the Judicial Committee may direct.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment clarifies the future of claims to a hereditary peerage as it was originally drafted by the Office of the Parliamentary Counsel for the House of Lords Reform Bill 2012.*

## THE EARL OF DEVON

25 Clause 2, page 1, line 8, at end insert –

“(3) Where claims to hereditary peerages are determined by the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council (pursuant to section 4 of the Judicial Committee Act 1833), the Committee must have regard to principles of gender equality.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*In the light of the fact that hereditary peerages often pass to eldest sons, this amendment seeks to ensure that the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, where exercising any jurisdiction to determine peerage claims, does so in a manner that is not gender discriminatory to the extent that it is able.*

**After Clause 2**

## THE EARL OF DUNDEE

26 After Clause 2, insert the following new Clause –

**“Review: impact on the effectiveness of the House of Lords**

Within 12 months of the day on which this Act comes into force, the Secretary of State must lay before Parliament the report of a review detailing the effect of this Act on the ability of the House of Lords to scrutinise legislation and hold the Government to account.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to require a review of the impact of this Act on the ability of the House of Lords to scrutinise legislation and hold the Government to account.*

## THE EARL OF DEVON

27 After Clause 2, insert the following new Clause –

**“Report: principles of gender equality**

- (1) The Secretary of State must, within six months of the day on which this Act comes into force, undertake a consultation on how principles of gender equality should be applied when determining hereditary peerage claims which were formerly determined by the House of Lords.
- (2) The Secretary of State must publish a report following the conclusion of the consultation which must address –
  - (a) the expectations of existing heirs;
  - (b) heirs born to unmarried parents;
  - (c) families with adopted children.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*In the light of the fact that hereditary peerages often pass to eldest sons, this amendment requires that the Secretary of State must, within six months of the commencement of this Act, consult on how principles of gender equality should be applied when determining hereditary peerage claims.*

THE EARL OF DEVON

28 After Clause 2, insert the following new Clause –

**“Review of and consultation on appropriateness of name of House**

The Secretary of State must, within six months of the day on which this Act is passed, lay before Parliament a report based on a public consultation on the implications of the provisions in this Act for the appropriateness of the name of the House of Lords.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment invites consideration of the suitability of the name “House of Lords” after the removal of the Hereditary Peers from Parliament.*

**Clause 4**

VISCOUNT HAILSHAM

29 Clause 4, page 2, line 16, leave out from “Parliament” to end of line 17 and insert “during which the Secretary of State has published a draft bill with proposals for stage two of House of Lords reform.

(3A) A “draft bill with proposals for stage two of House of Lords reform” is a draft bill which includes proposals which –

- (a) introduce a mandatory retirement age for members of the House of Lords;
- (b) introduce term limits of 15 years for life peers;
- (c) change the process of appointment of members of the House of Lords, so as to limit the discretion of the Prime Minister, and of the leaders of any political party, to secure the appointment of persons to sit and vote in the House of Lords;
- (d) introduce minimum participation requirements for continued membership of the House of Lords;
- (e) reduce the number of members entitled to sit and vote in the House of Lords to fewer than 600 by the time the Parliament in which the draft bill was published was dissolved.”

**Clause 5**

LORD NEWBY  
LORD WALLACE OF SALTAIRE

30 Clause 5, page 2, line 21, after “Peers” insert “and Proposals for a Democratic Mandate”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment would change the short title of the Bill and is consequential on Lord Newby's new Clause after Clause 1 "Duty to take forward proposals for democratic mandate for House of Lords".*

LORD NEWBY  
LORD WALLACE OF SALTIRE

- 31 Clause 5, page 2, line 21, after "Peers" insert "and Appointments"

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment would change the short title of the Bill and is consequential on Lord Newby's new Clause after Clause 1 "Life peerages not to be conferred against recommendation of the House of Lords Appointments Commission".*

**After Title**

LORD STRATHCLYDE

- 32 After the long title, insert the following new Preamble —

"Whereas it is intended to substitute for the House of Lords as it at present exists a Second Chamber constituted on a popular instead of hereditary basis, but such substitution cannot be immediately brought into operation:"

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment is copied from the preamble to the 1911 Parliament Act to highlight that Labour's plans for "an alternative second chamber that is more representative of the regions and nations" constitutes the same ambition for a popular basis for the House of Lords and that this Bill, like the 1911 Act, is another holding position because the intended substitution still "cannot be immediately brought into operation".*

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*30 June 2025*

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