

English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill

RUNNING LIST OF ALL AMENDMENTS IN GRAND COMMITTEE

Tabled up to and including

16 December 2025

The amendments are listed in accordance with the following Instruction –

Clauses 1 to 4	Clause 38
Schedule 1	Schedule 19
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Clause 36	Clause 85
Schedule 17	Schedule 34
Clause 37	Clauses 86 to 93
Schedule 18	Title

[*Amendments marked ★ are new or have been altered*]

Clause 2

THE EARL OF CLANCARTY
 BARONESS MCINTOSH OF PICKERING
 LORD FREYBERG
 BARONESS PRASHAR

Clause 2, page 2, line 24, at end insert –

“(h) the arts, creative industries, cultural services and heritage.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment adds the arts, creative industries, cultural services and heritage as an area of competence for strategic authorities.

Clause 9

BARONESS MCINTOSH OF PICKERING

Clause 9, page 11, line 29, leave out “7” and insert “8”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment, connected with others in the name of Baroness McIntosh of Pickering, seeks to ensure that Mayors in rural areas must appoint an extra commissioner, who would have responsibility for rural affairs.

LORD SHIPLEY

Lord Shipley gives notice of his intention to oppose the Question that Clause 9 stand part of the Bill.

Member's explanatory statement

By opposing this and another Question, Lord Shipley seeks to remove the ability of Mayors to appoint commissioners, as this means that they are not elected

Schedule 3

BARONESS MCINTOSH OF PICKERING

Schedule 3, page 121, line 4, at end insert –

“(1A) The mayor must appoint a commissioner with competence for rural affairs if their authority is a majority or intermediate rural authority according to the Rural Urban Classification.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment, connected with others in the name of Baroness McIntosh of Pickering, seeks to ensure that Mayors in rural areas must appoint an extra commissioner, who would have responsibility for rural affairs.

BARONESS MCINTOSH OF PICKERING

Schedule 3, page 128, line 27, at end insert—

- “(1A) The mayor must appoint a commissioner with competence for rural affairs if their authority is a majority or intermediate rural authority according to the Rural Urban Classification.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment, connected with others in the name of Baroness McIntosh of Pickering, seeks to ensure that Mayors in rural areas must appoint an extra commissioner, who would have responsibility for rural affairs.

LORD SHIPLEY

Lord Shipley gives notice of his intention to oppose the Question that Schedule 3 be the Third Schedule to the Bill.

Member's explanatory statement

By opposing this and another Question, Lord Shipley seeks to remove the ability of Mayors to appoint commissioners, as this means that they are not elected.

After Clause 15

BARONESS PIDGEON

After Clause 15, insert the following new Clause—

“Power to require attendance at Assembly meetings

- (1) Section 61 (power to require attendance at Assembly meetings) of the Greater London Authority Act 1999 is amended as follows.
- (2) In subsection (1), for “or (5)” substitute “, (5), (5A) or (5B)”
- (3) In section 61, after subsection (5) insert—
 - “(5A) This subsection applies to the Mayor of London.
 - “(5B) This subsection applies to—
 - (a) any person who has professional competence, specialist knowledge or relevant experience connected to the delivery, management or oversight of services provided in or on behalf of Greater London, and

- (b) any person who is a member of, or a member of staff of, a body which employs individuals with such competence, knowledge or experience.””

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment extends the categories of persons whom the London Assembly may require to attend its meetings or produce documents. It adds a new subsection to section 61 of the Greater London Authority Act 1999 to include the Mayor of London and those professionals providing services related to Greater London.

BARONESS PIDGEON

After Clause 15, insert the following new Clause—

“Greater London Authority Act 1999: amendment of Schedule 6

- (1) The Greater London Authority Act 1999 is amended as follows.
- (2) In Schedule 6 (procedure for determining the Authority’s consolidated council tax requirement), in paragraph 8(4), leave out “at least two-thirds of the Assembly members voting” and insert “the Assembly”.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment alters the voting requirement for the Assembly to change the Authority’s consolidated council tax requirement by replacing the two-thirds majority currently required under paragraph 8(4) of Schedule 6 to the Greater London Authority Act 1999 with a simple majority of the Assembly.

Clause 22

THE EARL OF CLANCARTY
 BARONESS MCINTOSH OF PICKERING
 LORD FREYBERG
 BARONESS PRASHAR

Clause 22, page 25, line 38, after “social” insert “, cultural”

Schedule 20

BARONESS MCINTOSH OF PICKERING
 LORD FREYBERG

Schedule 20, page 225, line 22, at end insert—

- “(2A) The mayoral combined authority must include amongst the projects identified measures that will promote growth through the safeguarding and promotion of existing cultural, creative, and community infrastructure such as grassroots music venues, theatres and other live performance spaces.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment, connected with another in the name of Baroness McIntosh of Pickering, seeks to ensure that local growth plans include provision about cultural venues.

BARONESS MCINTOSH OF PICKERING
LORD FREYBERG

Schedule 20, page 227, line 23, at end insert—

“(2A) The mayoral CCA must include amongst the projects identified measures that will promote growth through the safeguarding and promotion of existing cultural, creative, and community infrastructure such as grassroots music venues, theatres and other live performance spaces.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment, connected with another in the name of Baroness McIntosh of Pickering, seeks to ensure that local growth plans include provision about cultural venues.

Clause 44

LORD ADDINGTON

★ Clause 44, page 44, line 27, after the first “to” insert “the level of public access to fitness, sports and recreational facilities within the authority’s area, and”

After Clause 44

BARONESS WALMSLEY

After Clause 44, insert the following new Clause—

“Mayoral functions: advertising

(1) Within six months of the day on which this Act is passed, the Secretary of State must make regulations to enable mayors and local authorities to carry out functions relating to the display of advertising.

(2) Such regulations must—

(a) transfer or otherwise provide for the exercise of powers under section 220 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (regulations controlling display of advertisements) to mayors and local authorities, and

(b) provide that such functions include—

(i) a duty to consider the impact of advertisements on public health, and

(ii) the regulation of content of advertisements deemed to have an adverse impact on local health or likely to exacerbate inequalities in health outcomes.

- (3) Regulations under this section may amend provision made by or under an Act passed—
 - (a) before this Act, or
 - (b) later in the same session of Parliament as this Act.
- (4) Regulations under this section are subject to the affirmative resolution procedure.”

Member's explanatory statement

This new clause would provide mayors and local authorities with the power to regulate advertising, and include duties on their use of that power in relation to public health and health inequalities.

Clause 45

LORD GODDARD OF STOCKPORT

Clause 45, page 49, line 37, at end insert—

- “(c) arrange for the deputy mayor for fire and rescue to exercise one or more of the Mayor’s fire and rescue authority functions.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment requires a Mayor with Fire and Rescue Authority functions to delegate those functions to a Deputy Mayor for Fire and Rescue, ensuring governance arrangements parallel to those for policing.

Clause 59

LORD BLUNKETT

Lord Blunkett gives notice of his intention to oppose the Question that Clause 59 stand part of the Bill.

Schedule 27

LORD BLUNKETT

Lord Blunkett gives notice of his intention to oppose the Question that Schedule 27 be the Twenty-Seventh Schedule to the Bill.

After Clause 61

LORD PACK

After Clause 61, insert the following new Clause—

“Local Government Act 2000: repeal of section 87

- (1) The Local Government Act 2000 is amended as follows.
- (2) Omit section 87 (power to change years in which elections are held).

- (3) In section 88 (separate power to make incidental provisions) omit “or 87” in both places it occurs.”

Member's explanatory statement

This new Clause repeals section 87 of the Local Government Act 2000, removing the Secretary of State's power to alter the years in which ordinary local government elections are held by secondary legislation.

LORD PACK

After Clause 61, insert the following new Clause—

“Changes to years in which ordinary elections are held

In the Local Government Act 2000, for section 87 substitute—

“87 Changes to years in which ordinary elections are held

- (1) The years in which ordinary elections of councillors of any local authority are to be held may be changed only by an Act of Parliament.
- (2) No provision may be made under this Act enabling the Secretary of State or any other person to change the years in which ordinary elections of councillors are to be held by order, regulations or other delegated legislation.””

Member's explanatory statement

This new Clause removes the delegated power in section 87 of the Local Government Act 2000 and replaces it with a requirement that any change to the years in which ordinary local elections are held must be made by primary legislation.

BARONESS PINNOCK

After Clause 61, insert the following new Clause—

“Mayoral election: alternative vote system

- (1) Within three months beginning on the day on which this Act is passed, the Secretary of State must by regulations make provision for the use of the alternative vote system in elections of mayors.
- (2) Regulations under this section may not be made unless a draft has been laid before Parliament and approved by a resolution of each House.”

Member's explanatory statement

This new clause would require the introduction of the Alternative Vote System for elections of mayoral elections within three months.

After Clause 62

LORD BLUNKETT

After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause—

“Full council meetings: specified day

- (1) The Secretary of State may, by regulations made by statutory instrument, specify dates and times when local authorities in England must hold their full council meetings.
- (2) The power in subsection (1) may only be exercised following consultation with the Local Government Association.
- (3) Regulations made under this section are subject to the affirmative resolution procedure.”

BARONESS MCINTOSH OF PICKERING

After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause—

“Local authorities: meetings

- (1) The Secretary of State may by regulations establish arrangements where, in circumstances specified in those regulations, a meeting of a local authority is not limited to a meeting of persons who are all present in the same place.
- (2) Circumstances specified may include circumstances affecting—
 - (a) individual councillors, such as illness or disability, or
 - (b) a council as a whole, such as adverse weather or flooding.
- (3) Regulations under this section are subject to affirmative resolution procedure.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment seeks to ensure that local authorities can hold council meetings online, for example if travelling to the council chamber was made difficult by heavy snowfall or flooding.

After Clause 73

LORD PACK

After Clause 73, insert the following new Clause—

“Local authority responsibility for cattle grids

- (1) Within three months of the day on which this Act is passed, the Secretary of State must, by regulations, make provision to ensure that local authorities have primary responsibility for the maintenance and oversight of cattle grids in their local authority area.
- (2) Regulations under this section are subject to negative resolution procedure.”

Clause 89

BARONESS MCINTOSH OF PICKERING

Clause 89, page 85, line 11, at end insert—

“(A1) Before making any regulations under this Act, the Secretary of State must publish an assessment of the impact of this Act on rural areas, including its costs and benefits.”

Clause 93

BARONESS PINNOCK

Clause 93, page 88, line 36, leave out “Devolution and Community Empowerment” and insert “Delegation and Local Authority Functions”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment changes the title of the Bill to more accurately reflect its provisions related to the rebalancing between central and local governments.

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