

English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill

RUNNING LIST OF ALL AMENDMENTS IN GRAND COMMITTEE

*Tabled up to and including
14 January 2026*

The amendments are listed in accordance with the following Instruction –

Clauses 1 to 4	Clause 38
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Schedule 18	Title

[Amendments marked ★ are new or have been altered]

Before Clause 1

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK
LORD JAMIESON

Before Clause 1, insert the following new Clause –

“Purpose of this Act

The purpose of this Act is to –

- (a) strengthen community empowerment,
- (b) secure sustainable council finances,
- (c) protect vital social care services and enhance local accountability in their delivery,
- (d) support local growth through devolved powers and locally led decision-making, and
- (e) enable flexible and locally driven housebuilding and planning to meet community needs.”

Member's explanatory statement

This clause sets out the overarching purpose of the Act, emphasising locally led, consent-based governance, sustainable council finances, and strong accountability for social care and growth. It also clarifies the Act's intent to support flexible, community-driven planning and housebuilding.

Clause 2

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK
LORD JAMIESON

Clause 2, page 2, line 18, leave out paragraph (a)

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment seeks to probe whether, within a strategic authority's competence, it would have the power to borrow in order to nationalise local transport.

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK
LORD JAMIESON

Clause 2, page 2, line 24, leave out paragraph (g)

Member's explanatory statement

This probing amendment seeks to determine what is meant by “public safety”, and on what legal definition this remit is set out.

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.

BARONESS ROYALL OF BLAISDON
LORD BEST
LORD CAMERON OF DILLINGTON

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

“(h) rural affairs.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would add “rural affairs” to the list of areas of competence in clause 2 of the Bill.

LORD LANSLEY

★

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

“(h) community engagement and empowerment.”

After Clause 2

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK
LORD JAMIESON

After Clause 2, insert the following new Clause –

“Powers of strategic authorities

- (1) A strategic authority may exercise functions within an area of competence only within a powers framework set by the Secretary of State, who must by regulations made by statutory instrument –
 - (a) specify the scope and limits of the powers that may be exercised in relation to each area of competence,
 - (b) identify any functions reserved to central government, and
 - (c) impose any conditions or statutory objectives applicable to the exercise of those powers,

and a strategic authority must publish a statement setting out which such powers it has assumed and how those powers relate to the functions of its constituent councils.

- (2) Regulations under this section are subject to the affirmative resolution procedure.”

Member's explanatory statement

This probing amendment seeks to clarify how strategic authorities will be expected to identify, seek, and assume powers within the areas of competence, and how accountability for those powers will be maintained. It establishes that powers must sit within a framework set by the Secretary of State, ensuring clarity over scope, limits and conditions, and transparency for constituent councils and Parliament as to where responsibility lies.

LORD GASCOIGNE

After Clause 2, insert the following new Clause —

“Establishing a strategic authority

Before establishing a strategic authority, the Secretary of State must be satisfied that the authority is capable of exercising the functions conferred upon it, having regard to its governance arrangements, financial sustainability, administrative capacity, and accountability mechanisms.”

Member's explanatory statement

This new clause ensures that before any new strategic authority is created that there are capability tests which the existing local authority/ies must pass before the Secretary of State grants additional powers.

LORD SHIPLEY

After Clause 2, insert the following new Clause —

“Devolution of powers within strategic authority areas

- (1) A strategic authority may devolve to any local authority within its area any power which it holds.
- (2) In carrying out any action under subsection (1), a strategic authority must —
 - (a) consider whether any of its powers may be exercised at a more local level, and
 - (b) where it considers that to be the case, act so as to enable such devolution.
- (3) Each local authority within the area of a strategic authority must —
 - (a) consider whether any of its powers may be exercised at a more local level, and
 - (b) where it considers that to be the case, act so as to enable such devolution.
- (4) Within the period of one year beginning with the day on which this section comes into force, a strategic authority must publish a plan setting out how the strategic

authority and its member local authorities intend to carry out their duties under subsections (2) and (3) (a “Community Empowerment Plan”).

- (5) A Community Empowerment Plan must set out how the strategic authority and local authorities within its area will consult local communities on the exercise of those powers which are not devolved to lower-tier bodies.
- (6) A strategic authority must review a Community Empowerment Plan at least once during the period of four years beginning with the day on which the Plan is published.
- (7) In carrying out any function under this section, a strategic authority must ensure effective collaboration with any local authority or other body to which it has devolved powers.
- (8) The Secretary of State may by regulations made by statutory instrument make further provision about the powers of a strategic authority in circumstances where the strategic authority considers there to have been a serious failure or breach of duty in relation to a power devolved to a more local level.
- (9) Regulations made under subsection (8) are subject to the affirmative procedure.”

Clause 3

BARONESS JANKE

Clause 3, page 2, line 32, at end insert –

- “(3A) Before laying regulations to designate a single foundation strategic authority under subsection (1), the Secretary of State must consult all levels of local government in the affected area.
- (3B) Consultation under subsection (3A) must include consideration of –
 - (a) the proposed geographic area, functions, and powers of the foundation strategic authority,
 - (b) the governance arrangements of the authority, including membership, representation, and accountability to constituent local authorities, and
 - (c) the financial implications of the designation, including funding arrangements, transitional costs, and the impact on existing local authority budgets.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would require the Secretary of State to consult all levels of local government in the affected area before making regulations to designate a single foundation strategic authority.

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK
LORD JAMIESON

Clause 3, page 2, line 33, leave out subsection (4)

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment seeks to probe whether the affirmative procedure is deemed sufficient scrutiny for these Secretary of State powers relating to the creation of single foundation strategic authorities.

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK
LORD JAMIESON

The above-named Lords give notice of their intention to oppose the Question that Clause 3 stand part of the Bill.

Schedule 1

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK
LORD JAMIESON

Schedule 1, page 89, line 15, leave out sub-paragraph (b)

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment, and other amendments tabled Baroness Scott of Bybrook, remove the ability of the Secretary of State to create, or make certain changes to the governance or composition of, combined authorities without the consent of the councils involved.

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK
LORD JAMIESON

Schedule 1, page 89, line 33, leave out sub-paragraph (b)

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment, and other amendments tabled Baroness Scott of Bybrook, remove the ability of the Secretary of State to create, or make certain changes to the governance or composition of, combined authorities without the consent of the councils involved.

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK
LORD JAMIESON

Schedule 1, page 91, line 6, leave out paragraph 8

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment, and other amendments tabled Baroness Scott of Bybrook, remove the ability of the Secretary of State to create, or make certain changes to the governance or composition of, combined authorities without the consent of the councils involved.

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK
LORD JAMIESON

Schedule 1, page 91, line 8, leave out paragraph 9

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment, and other amendments tabled Baroness Scott of Bybrook, remove the ability of the Secretary of State to create, or make certain changes to the governance or composition of, combined authorities without the consent of the councils involved.

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK
LORD JAMIESON

Schedule 1, page 91, line 14, leave out paragraph 11

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK
LORD JAMIESON

Schedule 1, page 92, line 36, leave out paragraph 16

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment seeks to probe the proposal for the new combined authority, in circumstances where it is directed by the Secretary of State rather than by the communities it is intended to serve.

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK
LORD JAMIESON

Schedule 1, page 93, line 34, leave out paragraph 17

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK
LORD JAMIESON

Schedule 1, page 96, line 14, leave out paragraph 19

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment seeks to probe the proposal for the creation or expansion of a combined authority where the Secretary of State directs the inclusion of existing areas, rather than by the communities it is intended to serve.

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK
LORD JAMIESON

Schedule 1, page 98, line 13, leave out paragraph 20

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment seeks to probe the proposal for the creation or expansion of a combined authority where the Secretary of State directs the inclusion of existing areas, rather than the communities it is intended to serve.

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK
LORD JAMIESON

Schedule 1, page 99, line 10, leave out paragraph 21

BARONESS PINNOCK

★ Schedule 1, page 99, line 11, leave out from beginning to end of line 6 on page 101

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment removes provisions that would allow the Secretary of State to determine neighbourhood boundaries, ensuring that such decisions remain a matter for local communities rather than central government.

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK
LORD JAMIESON

Schedule 1, page 102, line 36, leave out sub-paragraph (b)

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment, and other amendments tabled by Baroness Scott of Bybrook, remove the ability of the Secretary of State to create, or make certain changes to the governance or composition of, combined county authorities without the consent of the councils involved.

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK
LORD JAMIESON

Schedule 1, page 103, line 10, leave out sub-paragraph (b)

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK
LORD JAMIESON

Schedule 1, page 104, line 5, leave out sub-paragraph (b)

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK
LORD JAMIESON

Schedule 1, page 104, line 17, leave out sub-paragraph (b)

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK
LORD JAMIESON

Schedule 1, page 105, line 10, leave out paragraph 33

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment, and other amendments tabled by Baroness Scott of Bybrook, remove the ability of the Secretary of State to create, or make certain changes to the governance or composition of, combined county authorities without the consent of the councils involved.

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK
LORD JAMIESON

Schedule 1, page 105, line 12, leave out paragraph 34

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment, and other amendments tabled by Baroness Scott of Bybrook, remove the ability of the Secretary of State to create, or make certain changes to the governance or composition of, combined county authorities without the consent of the councils involved.

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK
LORD JAMIESON

Schedule 1, page 105, line 13, leave out paragraph 35

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK
LORD JAMIESON

Schedule 1, page 106, line 34, leave out paragraph 38

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment, and other amendments tabled by Baroness Scott of Bybrook, remove the ability of the Secretary of State to create, or make certain changes to the governance or composition of, combined county authorities without the consent of the councils involved.

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK
LORD JAMIESON

Schedule 1, page 107, line 34, leave out paragraph 39

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK
LORD JAMIESON

Schedule 1, page 110, line 16, leave out paragraph 41

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment, and other amendments tabled by Baroness Scott of Bybrook, remove the ability of the Secretary of State to create, or make certain changes to the governance or composition of, combined county authorities without the consent of the councils involved.

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK
LORD JAMIESON

Schedule 1, page 112, line 13, leave out paragraph 42

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment, and other amendments tabled by Baroness Scott of Bybrook, remove the ability of the Secretary of State to create, or make certain changes to the governance or composition of, combined county authorities without the consent of the councils involved.

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK
LORD JAMIESON

Schedule 1, page 113, line 15, leave out paragraph 43

Clause 6

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK
LORD JAMIESON

The above-named Lords give notice of their intention to oppose the Question that Clause 6 stand part of the Bill.

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment seeks to probe why the Government consider it necessary to amend the LURA 2023. Specifically, it would introduce general decision-making arrangements for Combined Authorities and County Combined Authorities, replacing the bespoke constitutional arrangements currently set out in the LURA 2023.

After Schedule 2

LORD LANSLEY

★

Schedule 2, page 116, line 20, at end insert—

- “2A In section 12D of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (contents of spatial development strategy), after subsection (3) insert—
- “(3A) A spatial development strategy must identify the policies which are of strategic importance in order to meet the local growth priorities identified in the relevant local growth plan for that strategic area.””

Clause 8

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK
LORD JAMIESON

Clause 8, page 8, leave out lines 27 to 28

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment removes the new subsection inserting a new section into the LURA to provide the Secretary of State with the power to designate a mayoral strategic authority as an established mayoral strategic authority.

LORD LANSLEY

- ★ Clause 8, page 8, line 31, at end insert –

“(2A) The Secretary of State may designate a mayoral CCA only if they are satisfied that the authority is meeting, or is capable of meeting, the requirements for effective governance, accountability and specified performance metrics.”

LORD LANSLEY

- ★ Clause 8, page 9, line 38, at end insert –

“(2A) The Secretary of State may designate a mayoral CCA only if they are satisfied that the authority is meeting, or is capable of meeting, the requirements for effective governance, accountability and specified performance metrics.”

Clause 9

THE EARL OF CLANCARTY

- ★ Clause 9, page 11, line 4, leave out “7” and insert “8”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment is connected to an amendment in the Earl of Clancarty's name to clause 2, which would add the arts, creative industries, cultural services and heritage as an area of competence.

BARONESS MCINTOSH OF PICKERING
LORD CAMERON OF DILLINGTON

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.

THE EARL OF CLANCARTY

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

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LORD SHIPLEY
BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK
LORD JAMIESON
BARONESS PINNOCK

The above-named Lords give notice of their 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

After Clause 9

BARONESS PINNOCK

★

After Clause 9, insert the following new Clause —

“Scrutiny of mayoral commissioners

- (1) The mayor of a combined county authority must establish, for each commissioner appointed by the mayor, a scrutiny committee composed of elected members of the constituent local authorities.
- (2) The purpose of each scrutiny committee is to review, assess and report on the exercise of the policy responsibilities of the commissioner to whom it relates.
- (3) Each scrutiny committee must have the following powers —
 - (a) to require the mayor, the relevant commissioner, or any member of their staff to attend before the committee to give evidence;
 - (b) to require the production of any documents relevant to the exercise of the commissioner's functions;
 - (c) to publish reports on the committee's findings and recommendations.
- (4) The mayor and the relevant commissioner must have regard to any report or recommendation made by the corresponding scrutiny committee under this section.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment requires a Mayor of a Combined County Authority to establish a scrutiny committee of elected members with powers of summons to examine and report on the Mayor's exercise of functions.

Schedule 3

BARONESS MCINTOSH OF PICKERING
LORD CAMERON OF DILLINGTON

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
LORD CAMERON OF DILLINGTON

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
BARONESS PINNOCK

The above-named Lords give notice of their 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.

Clause 11

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK
LORD JAMIESON

Clause 11, page 14, line 33, leave out subsection (1)

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment seeks to probe why the Government propose to change the precept arrangements as set out in the LURA 2023.

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK
LORD JAMIESON

Clause 11, page 14, line 40, at end insert –

“(e) after subsection (12), insert –

“(13) A mayoral combined authority or a mayoral CCA may not increase a precept by an amount greater than that permitted for county councils and unitary authorities under principles determined by the Secretary of State for the relevant financial year.””

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would limit increases in the mayoral precept in accordance with the same principles that apply to county and unitary authorities.

Clause 12

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK
LORD JAMIESON

The above-named Lords give notice of their intention to oppose the question that Clause 12 stand part of the bill.

Member's explanatory statement

Removing Clause 12 would remove provision conferring a power on mayoral CAs and mayoral CCAs to borrow money in the same way as local authorities

Clause 13

BARONESS TAYLOR OF STEVENAGE

Clause 13, page 17, line 8, leave out “this section” and insert “subsections (2) to (7)”

Member's explanatory statement

This would be consequential on the amendment of clause 13 which provides for the amendment of section 143 of LGFA 1988 and section 106A of LDEDCA 2009.

BARONESS TAYLOR OF STEVENAGE

Clause 13, page 17, line 26, at end insert –

“(3A) In subsection (13), for “subsection (8)” substitute “subsection (8B) or (8C)”.”

Member's explanatory statement

This would make some additional consequential amendments arising from clause 13(2) of the Bill.

BARONESS TAYLOR OF STEVENAGE

Clause 13, page 17, line 34, leave out “subsections (15) to (17)” and insert “subsection (15)”

Member's explanatory statement

This would amend clause 13(5) of the Bill so that it substitutes only section 74(15) of LGFA 1988.

BARONESS TAYLOR OF STEVENAGE

Clause 13, page 18, line 10, at end insert –

“(5A) In subsection (16), for “subsection (15)” substitute “subsection (15B) or (15C).”

Member's explanatory statement

This would make some additional consequential amendments arising from clause 13(5) of the Bill.

BARONESS TAYLOR OF STEVENAGE

Clause 13, page 18, line 19, at end insert –

“(8) In consequence of those amendments –

(a) in section 143 of LGFA 1988 (orders and regulations) –

(i) in subsection (4B), for “subsection (8)” substitute “subsection (8B) or (8C)”;

(ii) in subsection (4C), for “subsection (15)” substitute “subsection (15B) or (15C)”;

(b) in section 106A of LDEDCA 2009 (consent requirements under other powers), in subsection (5)(b), for “subsection (8)” substitute “subsection (8B) or (8C).”

Member's explanatory statement

This would make some additional consequential amendments arising from clause 13(2) and (5) of the Bill.

Clause 15

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK
LORD JAMIESON

The above-named Lords give notice of their intention to oppose the Question that Clause 15 stand part of the Bill.

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment seeks to prove why additional powers for the Mayor of London may be conferred by secondary legislation.

After Clause 15

BARONESS PIDGEON
LORD GASCOIGNE

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
LORD MOYLAN

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.

LORD HARRIS OF HARINGEY

★

After Clause 15, insert the following new Clause—

“London Local Authorities Joint Committee

London Local Authorities Joint Committee

- (1) There is established a body corporate, to be known as the London Local Authorities Joint Committee (“the Committee”).
- (2) The leader of each relevant council is a member of the Committee.
- (3) The functions of the Committee are to—
 - (a) respond to any consultation mentioned in section 32(2) of Greater London Authority Act 1999 (consultation);
 - (b) respond to any consultation mentioned in paragraph 3(5) of Schedule 25;
 - (c) exercise any function delegated to the Committee by a relevant council which that council may delegate by virtue of any enactment.
- (4) The Committee may receive funding from a relevant council.
- (5) The Secretary of State may pay a grant to the Committee of such amounts and subject to such conditions as the Secretary of State may determine.
- (6) Schedule (*London Local Authorities Joint Committee*) makes provision about the constitution of the Committee.
- (7) The Secretary of State may, by regulations, make further provision relating to the constitution, functions and governance of the Committee.
- (8) Regulations under this section are subject to negative resolution procedure.
- (9) In this section, “relevant council” means—
 - (a) a London borough council, or
 - (b) the Common Council of the City of London in its capacity as a local authority.
- (10) In subsection (2), the leader of the Common Council of the City of London is a member of the Common Council nominated by the Common Council to perform that role.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment, and others in the name of Lord Harris of Haringey, seeks to establish a body corporate called the London Local Authorities Joint Committee, which will consist of a representative of each London borough council and the Common Council of the City of London.

LORD HARRIS OF HARINGEY

★ After Clause 15, insert the following new Clause —

“Power to pay grant

- (1) Section 33(1) of the Local Government Act 2003 (interpretation of Chapter 1) is amended as follows.
- (2) After paragraph (m), insert —
 - “(n) the London Local Authorities Joint Committee, established under section (*London Local Authorities Joint Committee*) of the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Act 2026.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment seeks to amend section 33(1) of the Local Government Act 2003 to expand the definition of local authorities for the purposes of Chapter 1 of that Act to include the London Local Authorities Joint Committee, which is established by another amendment in Lord Harris of Haringey's name.

LORD HARRIS OF HARINGEY

★ After Clause 15, insert the following new Clause —

“Consultation by the Greater London Authority

- (1) Section 32 of the GLAA 1999 (consultation) is amended as follows.
- (2) After subsection (2)(b), insert —
 - “(ba) the London Local Authorities Joint Committee, established under section (*London Local Authorities Joint Committee*) of the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Act 2026.”

Member's explanatory statement

Under section 30(1) of the Greater London Authority Act 1999, the Greater London Authority may do anything which it considers will further any one or more of its principal purposes, which are set out in section 30(2). By section 32(2), the power conferred by section 30(1) is exercisable only after consultation with certain bodies. This amendment seeks to amend section 32(2) to include the London Local Authorities Joint Committee (established by another amendment in Lord Harris of Haringey's name).

Clause 16

LORD GASCOIGNE

Clause 16, page 20, line 7, leave out “the United Kingdom” and insert “Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment, and others in the name of Lord Gascoigne to Clause 16, allows for whatever period that there could be the overlap of both the Mayor and MP retaining both offices.

BARONESS TAYLOR OF STEVENAGE

Clause 16, page 20, line 7, at end insert –

“(1A) If a person –

- (a) is elected as the mayor for the area of a combined authority, and
- (b) is, on the first day of the mayoral term, an elected member of a legislature in the United Kingdom,

the person is not disqualified under this paragraph for holding office as the mayor at any time in the period of eight days beginning with the first day of the mayoral term.

(1B) If a person –

- (a) becomes an elected member of a legislature in the United Kingdom, and
- (b) is, when the person becomes the elected member, the mayor for the area of a combined authority,

the person is not disqualified under this paragraph for holding office as the mayor at any time in the period of eight days beginning with the day on which the person becomes the elected member of the legislature.”

Member's explanatory statement

This would stop the new disqualification from applying during an 8 day “grace period” beginning with the day when it would otherwise apply (in the absence of this amendment). This would give time for an orderly resignation as legislator (where the person becomes mayor) or as mayor (where the person becomes a legislator).

LORD GASCOIGNE

Clause 16, page 20, line 8, leave out “the United Kingdom” and insert “Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment, and others in the name of Lord Gascoigne to Clause 16, allows for whatever period that there could be the overlap of both the Mayor and MP retaining both offices.

LORD GASCOIGNE

Clause 16, page 20, leave out line 10

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment, and others in the name of Lord Gascoigne to Clause 16, allows for whatever period that there could be the overlap of both the Mayor and MP retaining both offices.

BARONESS TAYLOR OF STEVENAGE

Clause 16, page 20, line 13, at end insert –

““first day of the mayoral term”, in relation to a person who is elected as the mayor for the area of a combined authority, means the day that would be the first day of the person’s term as the mayor if it is assumed that the person is not disqualified under this paragraph.””

Member's explanatory statement

This makes clear that the effect of the new disqualification provision must be ignored when working out what is the first day of the mayoral term.

LORD GASCOIGNE

Clause 16, page 20, line 22, leave out “the United Kingdom” and insert “Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment, and others in the name of Lord Gascoigne to Clause 16, allows for whatever period that there could be the overlap of both the Mayor and MP retaining both offices.

BARONESS TAYLOR OF STEVENAGE

Clause 16, page 20, line 23, at end insert –

“(1A) If a person –

- (a) is elected as the mayor for the area of a CCA, and
- (b) is, on the first day of the mayoral term, an elected member of a legislature in the United Kingdom,

the person is not disqualified under this paragraph for holding office as the mayor at any time in the period of eight days beginning with the first day of the mayoral term.

(1B) If a person –

- (a) becomes an elected member of a legislature in the United Kingdom, and
- (b) is, when the person becomes the elected member, the mayor for the area of a CCA,

the person is not disqualified under this paragraph for holding office as the mayor at any time in the period of eight days beginning with the day on which the person becomes the elected member of the legislature.”

Member's explanatory statement

This would stop the new disqualification from applying during an 8 day “grace period” beginning with the day when it would otherwise apply (in the absence of this amendment). This would give time for an orderly resignation as legislator (where the person becomes mayor) or as mayor (where the person becomes a legislator).

LORD GASCOIGNE

Clause 16, page 20, line 24, leave out “the United Kingdom” and insert “Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment, and others in the name of Lord Gascoigne to Clause 16, allows for whatever period that there could be the overlap of both the Mayor and MP retaining both offices.

LORD GASCOIGNE

Clause 16, page 20, leave out line 26

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment, and others in the name of Lord Gascoigne to Clause 16, allows for whatever period that there could be the overlap of both the Mayor and MP retaining both offices.

BARONESS TAYLOR OF STEVENAGE

Clause 16, page 20, line 29, at end insert—

““first day of the mayoral term”, in relation to a person who is elected as the mayor for the area of a CCA, means the day that would be the first day of the person’s term as the mayor if it is assumed that the person is not disqualified under this paragraph.”

Member's explanatory statement

This makes clear that the effect of the new disqualification provision must be ignored when working out what is the first day of the mayoral term.

LORD GASCOIGNE

Clause 16, page 20, line 38, leave out “the United Kingdom” and insert “Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment, and others in the name of Lord Gascoigne to Clause 16, allows for whatever period that there could be the overlap of both the Mayor and MP retaining both offices.

BARONESS TAYLOR OF STEVENAGE

Clause 16, page 20, line 38, at end insert —

“(1A) If a person —

(a) is elected as the Mayor, and

(b) is, on the first day of the Mayoral term, an elected member of a legislature in the United Kingdom,

the person is not disqualified under this section from being the Mayor at any time in the period of eight days beginning with the first day of the Mayoral term.

(1B) If a person —

(a) becomes an elected member of a legislature in the United Kingdom, and

(b) is, when the person becomes the elected member, the Mayor,

the person is not disqualified under this section from being the Mayor at any time in the period of eight days beginning with the day on which the person becomes the elected member of the legislature.”

Member's explanatory statement

This would stop the new disqualification from applying during an 8 day “grace period” beginning with the day when it would otherwise apply (in the absence of this amendment). This would give time for an orderly resignation as legislator (where the person becomes Mayor) or as Mayor (where the person becomes a legislator).

LORD GASCOIGNE

Clause 16, page 21, line 1, leave out “the United Kingdom” and insert “Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment, and others in the name of Lord Gascoigne to Clause 16, allows for whatever period that there could be the overlap of both the Mayor and MP retaining both offices.

LORD GASCOIGNE

Clause 16, page 21, leave out line 3

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment, and others in the name of Lord Gascoigne to Clause 16, allows for whatever period that there could be the overlap of both the Mayor and MP retaining both offices.

BARONESS TAYLOR OF STEVENAGE

Clause 16, page 21, line 6, at end insert –

““first day of the Mayoral term”, in relation to a person who is elected as the Mayor, means the day that would be the first day of the person’s term as the Mayor if it is assumed that the person is not disqualified under this section.”

Member's explanatory statement

This makes clear that the effect of the new disqualification provision must be ignored when working out what is the first day of the Mayoral term.

Clause 18

BARONESS THORNHILL

★ Clause 18, page 22, line 7, at the line end insert –

“(3A) After subsection (13) insert –

“(14) When making regulations under this section, the Secretary of State must have regard to the need to identify and minimise any conflict, overlap, or duplication between the functions of the Mayor and the functions of other authorities or public bodies.””

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment requires the Secretary of State, when making regulations under section 30 of LURA 2023, to consider and minimise any potential conflict, overlap, or duplication between the Mayor’s functions and those of other authorities or public bodies.

BARONESS THORNHILL

★ Clause 18, page 22, line 13 at end insert –

“(7) After subsection (8) insert –

“(9) When making an order under this section, the Secretary of State must have regard to the need to identify and minimise any conflict, overlap, or duplication between the functions of the Mayor and the functions of other authorities or public bodies.””

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment requires the Secretary of State, when making regulations under section 107D of the LDEDCA 2009, to consider and minimise any potential conflict, overlap, or duplication between the Mayor’s functions and those of other authorities or public bodies.

BARONESS THORNHILL

- ★ *Baroness Thornhill gives notice of her intention to oppose the Question that Clause 18 stand part of the Bill.*

Member's explanatory statement

By opposing this Question, Baroness Thornhill seeks clarification from the Government on the rationale for Clause 18, in particular regarding the role of mayors and local authorities following the restructuring of local government, and how their functions will interact with strategic authorities.

Clause 19

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK
LORD JAMIESON

Clause 19, page 23, line 6, at end insert –

- “(f) the progress of housebuilding as a consequence of devolution, including whether housing targets are being met and whether the right types of housing are being delivered to meet local needs,
- (g) the rate and distribution of economic growth in devolved areas, with particular reference to the impact of newly devolved powers,
- (h) any tax changes made within devolved areas under the powers conferred by this Act, including analysis of their fiscal impact and effect on local services, and
- (i) changes to the organisation, delivery, and funding of social care in devolved areas, including an assessment of outcomes for service users.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment expands the reporting requirements placed on the Secretary of State. It seeks to probe how the Government will assess the wider consequences of devolution, including the impact on housebuilding and whether local housing targets are being met; the effect of devolved powers on economic growth; the fiscal implications of tax changes introduced by devolved authorities; and the consequences of devolution for the delivery, funding, and outcomes of social care services.

BARONESS PINNOCK

- ★ Clause 19, page 23, line 6, at end insert –

- “(f) all instances where the Secretary of State has exercised a power under this Act without the consent of, or contrary to, decisions made by locally elected officials.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment requires the report to include a comprehensive list of occasions where the Secretary of State has exercised powers under this Act without the consent of, or contrary to, decisions made by locally elected officials.

After Clause 19

BARONESS PINNOCK

★ After Clause 19, insert the following new Clause—

“Strategic authorities: Secretary of State's duty

- (1) In discharging functions under this Act relating to the establishment, designation or modification of strategic authorities, the Secretary of State must have regard to the role of local government as the primary democratic institution responsible for the leadership, coordination and long-term stewardship of local areas.
- (2) Arrangements for strategic authorities must be framed so as to enable constituent local authorities to—
 - (a) articulate and pursue a long-term vision for the social, economic and environmental development of their areas,
 - (b) exercise convening and coordinating functions in relation to public, private, voluntary and community sector bodies, and
 - (c) integrate the provision of local services with wider economic, social and environmental outcomes.
- (3) In discharging the duty under this section, the Secretary of State must not treat local authorities solely as administrative or delivery bodies for national policy.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment reflects the conclusions of the Lyons Inquiry into Local Government (2007) by clarifying that the role of local government as providing democratic, place-based leadership and long-term stewardship of local areas, rather than acting solely as a delivery arm of central government.

Before Schedule 4

LORD HARRIS OF HARINGEY

★ Before Schedule 4, insert the following new Schedule—

“SCHEDULE (LONDON Section (London Local Authorities Joint
LOCAL AUTHORITIES Committee)
JOINT COMMITTEE)

CONSTITUTION OF LONDON LOCAL AUTHORITIES JOINT COMMITTEE***Appointment of chairperson and vice-chairperson***

- 1 At the first meeting of the London Local Authorities Joint Committee—
 - (a) the appointment of a chairperson is to be the first business transacted, and

- (b) a member of the Committee must chair the meeting until the chairperson is appointed from among the Committee members (and the chairperson is to chair the remainder of the meeting).

Voting

- 2 In relation to any matter to be decided at a meeting of the Committee—
 - (a) each member has one vote, and
 - (b) for the matter to be decided, the decision must be supported by a simple majority of members present at the meeting.

Standing Orders

- 3 The Committee must make standing orders for the regulation of its proceedings and business so far as not regulated by this Act.
- 4 The standing orders may be varied, revoked or replaced.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment, and others in the name of Lord Harris of Haringey, seeks to establish a body corporate called the London Local Authorities Joint Committee, which will consist of a representative of each London borough council and the Common Council of the City of London.

After Schedule 4

LORD BASSAM OF BRIGHTON

★

Schedule 4, page 137, line 33, at end insert—

“(2A) In the definition of “local authority” —

- (a) in paragraph (f), for “an eligible” substitute “a”, and
- (b) omit subsection (2).”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would include all parish councils in the definition of a local authority which has a power of general competence and remove the eligibility conditions prescribed by the Secretary of State by order for the purposes of section 8 of the Localism Act 2011.

Clause 21

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK
LORD JAMIESON

Clause 21, page 23, leave out lines 27 to 29

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment probes the necessity of forcing local partners to respond to meeting requests.

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK
LORD JAMIESON

Clause 21, page 25, line 17, leave out from “specified” to end of line and insert “by the mayor”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would remove the Secretary of State's right to define local partners.

Clause 22

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

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

LORD RAVENSDALE
LORD HUNT OF KINGS HEATH
BARONESS BARRAN

Clause 22, page 31, line 34, at end insert –

“103F Regional collaboration

- (1) Two or more elected mayors may collaborate across mayoral combined authorities and create convening bodies whose purpose, priorities and membership are decided at a regional level.
- (2) For the purposes of subsection (1), convening bodies must work with existing regional organisations, and may –
 - (a) convene regional, public and private sector partners to promote a region internationally,
 - (b) develop investable propositions in key sectors and align trade, investment, major infrastructure and land use issues,
 - (c) coordinate major cultural and sporting activities, and
 - (d) ensure coherence across transport, skills, energy, social mobility and other areas of competence.”

Schedule 5

BARONESS PIDGEON

Schedule 5, page 140, line 34, at end insert –

- “(e) requiring traffic authorities to provide parking and docking for licensed micromobility vehicles at an appropriate density and standard.”

BARONESS PIDGEON

Schedule 5, page 141, leave out lines 14 to 16 and insert –

- “(6) Traffic authorities and licensing authorities must co-operate with each other to ensure that sufficient space is provided for the parking and docking of licensed micromobility vehicles and on other matters relating to the parking and docking of micromobility vehicles.”

BARONESS MCINTOSH OF PICKERING

Schedule 5, page 144, line 11, at end insert –

- “(3) The regulations must make provision for a licence to prohibit the provider of micromobility vehicles from providing a pedal cycle or electrically assisted pedal cycle to a person who does not have insurance.”

BARONESS PIDGEON

Schedule 5, page 148, line 3, at end insert –

“Cooperation with other bodies

- 12 The regulations –
- (a) must require Great British Railways and National Highways, and
 - (b) may require other public bodies,
- to cooperate with the licencing authority on matters relating to connecting micromobility vehicles with other forms of transport.”

After Clause 26

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK
LORD JAMIESON

After Clause 26, insert the following new Clause –

“Parking charges

In section 46A of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1994 (variation of charges at designated parking places), after subsection (4A) insert –

- “(4B) Where the authority by whom a designation order is made is a combined authority or CCA, the authority making that order under this section may not increase those charges.””

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment prevents combined county authorities and combined authorities from increasing parking charges.

Clause 29

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK
LORD JAMIESON

Clause 29, page 37, line 7, leave out “implement” and insert “have regard to”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment ensures that councils must have regard to local transport plans, rather than be under a duty to implement them.

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK
LORD JAMIESON

Clause 29, page 37, line 28, leave out “implement” and insert “have regard to”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment, and another tabled by Baroness Scott of Byrbook, ensures that councils must have regard to local transport plans, rather than be under a duty to implement them.

After Clause 31

LORD RAVENSDALE
LORD EVANS OF RAINOW
LORD BLUNKETT

After Clause 31, insert the following new Clause —

“Preventing youth unemployment

In their delivery of functions under this Act, strategic authorities must work in partnership with local businesses and education (including further education) providers to prevent and reduce local youth unemployment.”

Schedule 11

LORD RAVENSDALE

Schedule 11, page 173, line 33, at end insert —

- “(c) education and vocational training for individuals residing in areas of high deprivation,
- (d) provision of skills relating to priority sectors identified by Local Growth Plans, and
- (e) specific forms of support that may be required in order to deliver skills provisions to those who have faced long-term economic inactivity or unemployment.”

LORD RAVENSDALE
LORD EVANS OF RAINOW
LORD BLUNKETT

Schedule 11, page 173, line 33, at end insert—

- “(1AA) In securing provision under subsection (1A), the Mayor of London, each combined authority and CCA, and each district council or county council that is a strategic authority, must consult further education colleges on where skills challenges are most acute within those sectors.”

LORD RAVENSDALE
LORD EVANS OF RAINOW
LORD BLUNKETT

Schedule 11, page 174, line 16, at end insert—

- “(1AA) For the purposes of subsection (1A) strategic authorities must take consideration of—
- (a) education and vocational training for individuals residing in areas of high deprivation,
 - (b) provision of skills relating to priority sectors identified by Local Growth Plans,
 - (c) consultation with further education colleges on where skills challenges are most acute within those sectors, in the delivery of those plans, and
 - (d) specific forms of support that may be required in order to deliver skills provisions to those who have faced long-term economic inactivity or unemployment.”

Clause 35

BARONESS PINNOCK

★

Clause 35, page 39, line 14, at end insert—

- “(2) Notwithstanding any powers conferred under this section or Schedule 16, the Mayor of a Combined County Authority may exercise strategic planning powers only where the constituent local authorities have been consulted and, within limits prescribed by regulations, have the power to approve or veto such decisions.
- (3) Regulations under this section are subject to the affirmative resolution procedure.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment ensures that constituent local authorities have a consultative and limited veto role over strategic planning powers, with any regulations setting those limits made by statutory instrument subject to the affirmative procedure.

Schedule 16

BARONESS PINNOCK

★ Schedule 16, page 197, line 3, at end insert—

“(d) any parish council;”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment requires that any parish council be consulted in relation to the exercise of land acquisition powers conferred by Schedule 16.

After Clause 37

BARONESS ROYALL OF BLAISDON

LORD BEST

LORD CAMERON OF DILLINGTON

After Clause 37, insert the following new Clause—

“Duty to consider the needs of rural communities

- (1) When considering whether or how to exercise any of its functions a combined authority, a CCA and each district council or county council that is a strategic authority must have regard to the needs of rural communities in relation to land use, the development of land and regeneration, housing, employment, health and wellbeing.
- (2) When considering whether or how to exercise any function, the mayor for the area of a combined authority and the mayor for the area of a CCA must have regard to the considerations set out in subsection (1).”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would require strategic authorities and their mayors, when considering whether or how to exercise any of their functions, to have regard to the needs of rural communities.

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK

LORD JAMIESON

After Clause 37, insert the following new Clause—

“Brownfield land priority

- (1) A mayor, combined authority, or combined county authority may not designate greenfield land for development unless it is satisfied that no suitable brownfield land is available within the relevant area.
- (2) In determining suitability under subsection (1), regard must be had to—
 - (a) availability,
 - (b) viability, and
 - (c) environmental impact.”

LORD LANSLEY
LORD BEST
LORD SHIPLEY

After Clause 37, insert the following new Clause –

“Chief Planner

- (1) The Town and Country Planning Act 1990 is amended as follows
- (2) After Section 1, insert –

“1A Local planning authorities and strategic authorities: Chief Planner

- (1) Each local planning authority and each strategic authority, as defined in section 1(2) of the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Act 2026 (strategic authorities), must appoint an officer, to be known as Chief Planner, for the purposes of their functions in relation to planning and spatial development.
- (2) Two or more authorities may, if they consider that the same person can efficiently discharge for both or all of the authorities the functions of Chief Planner, concur in the same appointment of a person as Chief Planner for both or all of these authorities.
- (3) An authority may not appoint a person as Chief Planner unless satisfied that the person has appropriate qualifications and experience for the role.””

BARONESS MCINTOSH OF PICKERING

★

After Clause 37, insert the following new Clause –

“Sustainable drainage assessments

- (1) In their functions under this Part related to planning applications, strategic authorities must conduct and publish a sustainable drainage assessment.
- (2) The assessment under subsection (1) must include consideration of whether existing public sewerage systems have capacity to support proposed developments in planning applications.”

Schedule 18

LORD BEST

Schedule 18, page 216, line 30, at end insert –

“Support for Mayoral Development Corporations

- 4A (1) Section 198 is amended in accordance with this paragraph.
- (2) After subsection (2), insert –
 - “(2A) The Secretary of State may –

- (a) provide financial assistance for the creation of Mayoral Development Corporations;
- (b) provide financial assistance for the acquisition of land or property by Mayoral Development Corporations;
- (c) provide guidance to Mayoral Development Corporations on any aspect of governance, land acquisition, development and regeneration, and ongoing management.””

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would enable the Secretary of State to support the creation of Mayoral Development Corporations.

After Clause 39

LORD RAVENSDALE
LORD EVANS OF RAINOW
LORD BLUNKETT

After Clause 39, insert the following new Clause –

“Report: impact of the growth and skills levy on local growth plans under section 39

- (1) The Secretary of State must publish a report on the impact of the growth and skills levy on local growth plans produced by mayoral strategic authorities under section 39 and schedule 20 of this Act.
- (2) The report under subsection (1) must consider whether the elements of the delivery of the levy should be devolved to strategic authorities to support delivery of local growth plans.
- (3) The Secretary of State must publish a report under this section within 12 months of the day on which this Act is passed, and annually thereafter.”

Schedule 20

LORD RAVENSDALE
LORD EVANS OF RAINOW
LORD BLUNKETT

Schedule 20, page 225, line 13, at end insert –

- “(1A) In the preparation and delivery of local growth plans, a mayoral combined authority must –
- (a) consult with residents in its area of responsibility, taking reasonable means to ensure consideration of their view, and
 - (b) consult and co-produce such plans with a representative group of the relevant public, private and third sector organisations in the authority’s area of responsibility.”

LORD RAVENSDALE
LORD EVANS OF RAINOW
LORD BLUNKETT

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

- “(d) address socio-economic disadvantage for those who live and work in the strategic authority’s area of responsibility,
- (e) promote and support local entrepreneurship, local productivity and business development, particularly, among those of lower socio-economic backgrounds, or residing in areas facing socio-economic disadvantage, and
- (f) require the strategic authority to support and promote innovation in business, research and development in partnership with universities, education providers and public sector institutions.”

LORD LANSLEY

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

- “(d) identify the spatial development implications required to meet the employment, industrial, commercial and logistic growth opportunities identified in the local growth plan;”

LORD LANSLEY

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

- “(d) identify the infrastructure projects required to meet the growth priorities and spatial development implications of employment-related growth opportunities.”

BARONESS MCINTOSH OF PICKERING
LORD FREYBERG
THE EARL OF CLANCARTY

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.

LORD RAVENSDALE
LORD EVANS OF RAINOW
LORD BLUNKETT

Schedule 20, page 227, line 14, at end insert –

- “(1A) In the preparation and delivery of local growth plans, a mayoral CCA must –
- (a) consult with residents in its area of responsibility, taking reasonable means to ensure consideration of their view, and
 - (b) consult and co-produce such plans with a representative group of the relevant public, private and third sector organisations in the authority’s area of responsibility.”

LORD RAVENSDALE
LORD EVANS OF RAINOW
LORD BLUNKETT

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

- “(d) address socio-economic disadvantage for those who live and work in the strategic authority’s area of responsibility,
- (e) promote and support local entrepreneurship, local productivity and business development, particularly among those of lower socio-economic backgrounds, or residing in areas facing socio-economic disadvantage.”

BARONESS MCINTOSH OF PICKERING
LORD FREYBERG
THE EARL OF CLANCARTY

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 42

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK
LORD JAMIESON

Clause 42, page 41, leave out lines 35 to 39

Member's explanatory statement

This probing amendment seeks to understand why the provision is limited solely to current employees of a constituent council of a combined authority, and does not extend to other employers participating in the LGPS. It aims to explore the rationale for excluding staff of housing associations, admitted bodies, and other local employers who play a significant role in the community, and to question whether this distinction is justified or creates unnecessary inconsistency within the scheme.

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK
LORD JAMIESON

Clause 42, page 42, leave out lines 1 to 4

Member's explanatory statement

This probing amendment seeks to explore the workability and functionality of the duty requiring a combined authority to assist in identifying or developing LGPS investment opportunities, and to test concerns that such a requirement would place the authority in conflict with the scheme manager's fiduciary responsibilities, which must remain independent and solely focused on the interests of scheme members.

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK
LORD JAMIESON

Clause 42, page 42, leave out lines 11 to 14

Member's explanatory statement

This probing amendment seeks to probe the workability of the provision requiring scheme managers to participate in an asset pool company either as shareholders or through mandatory contracts. The intention is to test how this provision affects scheme managers' flexibility and their fiduciary duties to act solely in the interests of scheme members, as well as whether participation in asset pool companies is appropriate for all funds or future pooling arrangements.

BARONESS TAYLOR OF STEVENAGE

Clause 42, page 42, line 12, at end insert—

“(ab) being a shareholder in another company which is the only shareholder of the company, or”

Member's explanatory statement

This reflects changes to the definition of an asset pool company in the Pension Schemes Bill.

BARONESS TAYLOR OF STEVENAGE

Clause 42, page 42, line 16, leave out “(7)” and insert “(9)”

Member's explanatory statement

This reflects a numbering change in the Pension Schemes Bill.

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK
LORD JAMIESON

Clause 42, page 42, leave out lines 38 to 40

Member's explanatory statement

This probing amendment seeks to clarify the form and mechanism through which administering authorities would be expected to put forward local investment opportunities identified within their asset pools. It aims to test how such opportunities would be presented, assessed, and communicated in practice, and whether the Bill provides sufficient clarity to ensure that any process operates consistently with scheme managers' fiduciary duties and existing LGPS governance structures.

BARONESS TAYLOR OF STEVENAGE

Clause 42, page 43, line 8, at end insert —

“(ab) being a shareholder in another company which is the only shareholder of the company, or”

Member's explanatory statement

This reflects changes to the definition of an asset pool company in the Pension Schemes Bill.

BARONESS TAYLOR OF STEVENAGE

Clause 42, page 43, line 12, leave out “(7)” and insert “(9)”

Member's explanatory statement

This reflects a numbering change in the Pension Schemes Bill.

BARONESS TAYLOR OF STEVENAGE

Clause 42, page 44, line 1, at end insert —

“(ab) being a shareholder in another company which is the only shareholder of the company, or”

Member's explanatory statement

This reflects changes to the definition of an asset pool company in the Pension Schemes Bill.

BARONESS TAYLOR OF STEVENAGE

Clause 42, page 44, line 5, leave out “(7)” and insert “(9)”

Member's explanatory statement

This reflects a numbering change in the Pension Schemes Bill.

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”

LORD RAVENSDALE
LORD EVANS OF RAINOW
LORD BLUNKETT

Clause 44, page 45, line 8, at end insert “such as affordability and accessibility of childcare”

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.

Schedule 23

BARONESS TAYLOR OF STEVENAGE

Schedule 23, page 259, line 7, at end insert –

“Matters outside the scope of Inspections

4A In section 28 (inspectors), after subsection (A8) insert –

“(A8A) When carrying out an inspection under subsection (A3) of a mayoral combined authority, or mayoral CCA, in its capacity as a fire and rescue authority by virtue of section 1(2)(f) or (g), an English inspector must not review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, in connection with the discharge of an excluded mayoral FRA function.

(A8B) For the purposes of subsection (A8A), the following are excluded mayoral FRA functions in relation to a mayoral combined authority, or mayoral CCA, in its capacity as a fire and rescue authority –

- (a) the issuing of a community risk management plan;
- (b) the variation of priorities and objectives set out in a community risk management plan;
- (c) the allocation of the draft or actual budget for fire and rescue functions in relation to any financial year;
- (d) the function of appointing, suspending or dismissing the chief fire officer;
- (e) the function of holding the chief fire officer to account for the exercise of –
 - (i) the functions which are delegated to the chief fire officer; and

- (ii) the functions of persons under the direction and control of the chief fire officer;
- (f) the function of approving a pay policy statement prepared for the purposes of section 38 of the Localism Act 2011;
- (g) the function of approving arrangements to enter into a reinforcement scheme under section 13;
- (h) the function of approving arrangements with other employers of firefighters under section 15;
- (i) the function of approving arrangements under section 16;
- (j) the function of approving plans, modifications to plans and additions to plans for the purpose of ensuring that—
 - (i) so far as is reasonably practicable, the mayoral combined authority, or mayoral CCA, is able to continue to perform its fire and rescue functions if an emergency occurs; and
 - (ii) the mayoral combined authority, or mayoral CCA, is able to perform its functions so far as necessary or desirable for the purpose of preventing an emergency, or reducing, controlling or mitigating the effects of an emergency, or taking other action in connection with it;
- (k) the function of approving any arrangements for the co-operation of the mayoral combined authority, or mayoral CCA in relation to its fire and rescue functions with other general Category 1 responders and general Category 2 responders in respect of—
 - (i) the performance of the mayoral combined authority's, or mayoral CCA's, duty as a fire and rescue authority under section 2 of the Civil Contingencies Act 2004; and
 - (ii) any duties under subordinate legislation made in exercise of powers under that Act.

(A8C) In subsection (A8B) —

“community risk management plan” has the same meaning as in Schedule ZA1;

“emergency” has the meaning given in section 1 of the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 for Part 1 of that Act;

“general Category 1 responder” means a person who falls within Part 1 of Schedule 1 to the Civil Contingencies Act 2004;

“general Category 2 responder” means a person who falls within Part 3 of Schedule 1 to the Civil Contingencies Act 2004;

“priorities and objectives” has the same meaning as in Schedule ZA1.””

Member's explanatory statement

This would provide for matters which inspectors of fire and rescue authorities may not review or scrutinise when inspecting mayoral combined authorities or CCAs which are fire and rescue authorities.

BARONESS TAYLOR OF STEVENAGE

Schedule 23, page 259, line 27, at end insert –

“Local Government Finance Act 1988

- 5A (1) The Local Government Finance Act 1988 is amended in accordance with this paragraph.
- (2) In section 114 (functions of responsible officer as regards reports), in subsection (4)(b) –
- (a) in sub-paragraph (iiic), omit the final “and”;
 - (b) after sub-paragraph (iiic) insert –
 - “(iiid) a mayoral FRA, the relevant scrutiny body (and here “mayoral FRA” and “relevant scrutiny body” have the same meanings as in Schedule ZA1 to the Fire and Rescue Act 2004), and”.
- (3) In section 115 (authority’s duties as regards reports) –
- (a) after subsection (1BA) insert –
 - “(1BB) In the case of a report made by the chief finance officer of a mayoral FRA (which in this section has the same meaning as in Schedule ZA1 to the Fire and Rescue Act 2004), that mayoral FRA must consider the report and decide whether the mayoral FRA agrees or disagrees with the views contained in the report and what action (if any) the mayoral FRA proposes to take in consequence of it.”;
 - (b) in subsection (1E), after “section 4A fire and rescue authority” insert “, the mayoral FRA”;
 - (c) after subsection (1FA) insert –
 - “(1FB) As soon as practicable after the mayoral FRA has prepared a report under subsection (1E), the mayoral FRA must arrange for a copy of the report to be sent to –
 - (a) the chief finance officer;
 - (b) the person who at the time the report is made has the duty to audit the authority’s accounts; and
 - (c) each member of the relevant scrutiny body (which has the same meaning as in Schedule ZA1 to the Fire and Rescue Act 2004).”;
 - (d) in subsection (2), after “section 4A fire and rescue authority” insert “, a mayoral FRA”.

Local Government and Housing Act 1989

- 5B (1) The Local Government and Housing Act 1989 is amended in accordance with this paragraph.

- (2) In section 67(3) (meaning of “local authority” in Part 5), after paragraph (h) insert –

- “(ha) a mayoral combined authority (which has the same meaning as in Part 6 of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 – see section 107A(8) of that Act) in its capacity as a fire and rescue authority by virtue of section 1(2)(f) or (g) of the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004;
- (hb) a mayoral CCA (which has the same meaning as in Chapter 1 of Part 2 of the Levelling-up and Regeneration Act 2023 – see section 27(8) of that Act) in its capacity as a fire and rescue authority by virtue of section 1(2)(f) or (g) of the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004;”.

- (3) In section 155(4) (local authorities that can receive emergency financial assistance), after paragraph (ha) insert –

- “(hb) a mayoral combined authority (which has the same meaning as in Part 6 of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 – see section 107A(8) of that Act) in its capacity as a fire and rescue authority by virtue of section 1(2)(f) or (g) of the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004;
- (hc) a mayoral CCA (which has the same meaning as in Chapter 1 of Part 2 of the Levelling-up and Regeneration Act 2023 – see section 27(8) of that Act) in its capacity as a fire and rescue authority by virtue of section 1(2)(f) or (g) of the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004;”.

Member's explanatory statement

This would bring mayoral combined authorities or CCAs that are fire and rescue authorities are within sections 114 and 155 of the Local Government Finance Act 1989 and Part 5 and section 155 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.

Clause 50

BARONESS TAYLOR OF STEVENAGE

Clause 50, page 55, line 31, after “the” insert “GLA and the”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment is consequential on the amendment in my name inserting new provisions into the Licensing Act 2003 to confer powers on the GLA and the Mayor of London.

Schedule 24

BARONESS TAYLOR OF STEVENAGE

Schedule 24, page 260, line 32, leave out “2 to 4” and insert “1A to 4P”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment is consequential on the amendment in my name inserting new provisions into the Licensing Act 2003 to confer powers on the GLA and the Mayor of London.

BARONESS TAYLOR OF STEVENAGE

Schedule 24, page 260, line 32, at end insert—

“1A In section 3 (licensing authorities), after subsection (1) insert—

“(1A) In this Act, “London licensing authority” means each of the following licensing authorities—

- (a) the council of a London borough,
- (b) the Common Council of the City of London,
- (c) the Sub-Treasurer of the Inner Temple, or
- (d) the Under-Treasurer of the Middle Temple.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment is consequential on the amendment in my name inserting new provisions into the Licensing Act 2003 to confer powers on the GLA and the Mayor of London.

BARONESS TAYLOR OF STEVENAGE

Schedule 24, page 261, leave out lines 6 to 11

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment is consequential on the amendment in my name inserting new provisions into the Licensing Act 2003 to confer powers of the Mayor of London.

BARONESS TAYLOR OF STEVENAGE

Schedule 24, page 261, leave out lines 17 to 19

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment is consequential on the amendment in my name inserting new provisions into the Licensing Act 2003 to confer powers on the GLA and the Mayor of London.

BARONESS TAYLOR OF STEVENAGE

Schedule 24, page 263, line 6, at end insert—

“4A In section 13 (authorised persons and responsible authorities), in subsection (4), after paragraph (ha), insert—

- “(hb) where the premises are situated in Greater London, the Greater London Authority,”.

4B After section 17 insert –

“17A Licence applications of potential strategic importance: Greater London

- (1) A London licensing authority must as soon as possible give notice to the Greater London Authority of any application made to it under section 17 that is a relevant licence application.
- (2) A “relevant licence application” is an application for a premises licence in Greater London which would authorise the premises to be used for one or more of the following activities –
 - (a) the sale by retail of alcohol;
 - (b) the provision of regulated entertainment;
 - (c) the provision of late night refreshment.
- (3) The Greater London Authority must give notice to each interested party if the Authority considers that the relevant licence application is an application of potential strategic importance to Greater London.
- (4) On receipt of a notice under subsection (3), the London licensing authority must as soon as reasonably practicable advertise the determination of the Greater London Authority.
- (5) The Secretary of State must by regulations specify the form and manner in which an advertisement under subsection (4) is to be made.
- (6) For the purposes of subsection (3), “application of potential strategic importance to Greater London” is to be interpreted in accordance with regulations made by the Secretary of State.
- (7) In this section, an “interested party” in relation to an application means –
 - (a) the London licensing authority that the application was made to;
 - (b) the applicant;
 - (c) each responsible authority in relation to the premises to which the application relates.”

4C In section 18 (determination of application for premises licence), after subsection (9) insert –

- “(9A) Where a London licensing authority is to hold a hearing in accordance with subsection (3) in relation to an application of potential strategic importance to Greater London, the authority must give to the Greater London Authority –
- (a) in advance of the hearing, specified information relating to the hearing within the specified period;
 - (b) following the hearing, specified information relating to the hearing within the specified period.
- (9B) In subsection (9A) –
- “application of potential strategic importance to Greater London” means a licence application that has been notified to the London

licensing authority by the Greater London Authority under section 17A(3) as being of potential strategic importance to Greater London;

“specified” means specified in regulations made by the Secretary of State.”

- 4D In section 22 (prohibited conditions: plays), in subsection (2) –
- (a) the words from “a licensing authority” to the end become paragraph (a);
 - (b) after that paragraph, insert “or,
 - (b) the Mayor of London directing a London licensing authority under section 25C(1)(a)(i) or (b)(i), or section 41ZB(1)(a) or (c) to impose conditions which the Mayor considers appropriate on the grounds of public safety.”
- 4E In section 23 (grant or rejection of application) –
- (a) after subsection (2) insert –
 - “(2A) Where an application of potential strategic importance to Greater London is granted with no steps taken under section 18(4)(a) to (c) in relation to the licence, the relevant licensing authority must as soon as possible give notice to that effect to the Greater London Authority.
 - (2B) Subsection (2A) does not apply if the Greater London Authority made relevant representations in respect of the application.”;
 - (b) in subsection (4), after “this section” insert –
 - ““application of potential strategic importance to Greater London” means a licence application that has been notified to a London licensing authority by the Greater London Authority under section 17A(3) as being of potential strategic importance to Greater London;”.
- 4F In section 24 (form of licence and summary), after subsection (2)(f), insert –
- “(g) if it is issued on a direction from the Mayor of London, specify this.”
- 4G After section 25A insert –
- “Power of Mayor of London to determine licence applications*

25B Power of the Mayor of London to determine applications

- (1) This section applies where on an application of potential strategic importance to Greater London a London licensing authority –
 - (a) grants a premises licence having taken one or more of the steps under section 18(4)(a) to (c) in relation to the licence, or
 - (b) rejects the application to grant a premises licence under section 18(4)(d).

- (2) The London licensing authority must as soon as possible give notice to the applicant and the Greater London Authority of –
 - (a) its decision to grant the premises licence and the reasons for its decision to take steps under section 18(4)(a) to (c) in relation to the licence, or
 - (b) its decision to reject the application under section 18(4)(d) and the reasons for doing so.
- (3) But the decision of the London licensing authority in relation to the application does not otherwise have effect unless and until the Mayor of London gives notice under subsection (6) of a decision under subsection (5)(b).
- (4) Accordingly, the London licensing authority must not take any steps under this Act in relation to the decision (including giving notice under section 23) unless and until such a notice is given.
- (5) The Mayor of London must by the end of the specified period decide –
 - (a) to give a direction to the London licensing authority in relation to the application (see section 25C), or
 - (b) that the decision of the London licensing authority in relation to the application is to have effect for the purposes of this Act (and, accordingly, any requirements in relation to that decision now apply).
- (6) The Mayor of London must give notice of the Mayor’s decision under subsection (5) to –
 - (a) each interested party;
 - (b) any person who made relevant representations in relation to the application under section 18.
- (7) On receipt of a notice under subsection (6), the London licensing authority must as soon as reasonably practicable advertise the decision of the Mayor.
- (8) The Secretary of State must by regulations specify the form and manner in which an advertisement under subsection (7) is to be made.
- (9) In this section –
 - “application of potential strategic importance to Greater London” means an application that has been notified to a London licensing authority by the Greater London Authority under section 17A(3) as being of potential strategic importance to Greater London;
 - “interested party” has the same meaning as in section 17A;
 - “specified” means specified in regulations made by the Secretary of State.

25C Directions by the Mayor of London

- (1) Where section 25B(5)(a) applies the Mayor of London must direct the London licensing authority –

- (a) to grant the licence in accordance with the application subject only to—
 - (i) such conditions as are consistent with the operating schedule accompanying the application, and
 - (ii) any conditions which must under section 19, 20 or 21 be included in the licence;
 - (b) to grant the licence subject to—
 - (i) the conditions mentioned in subsection (1)(a)(i) with permitted modifications, and
 - (ii) any condition which must under section 19, 20 or 21 be included in the licence;
 - (c) to grant the licence in accordance with paragraph (a) or (b), but to also do one or both of the following—
 - (i) exclude from the scope of the licence any of the licensable activities which were excluded by the decision of the London licensing authority in relation to the application under section 18;
 - (ii) refuse to specify a person in the licence as the premises supervisor where the London licensing authority refused to specify that person in their decision in relation to the application under section 18;
 - (d) to reject the application.
- (2) The London licensing authority must grant the licence or reject the application in accordance with the direction given under subsection (1).
- (3) When giving a direction under this section the Mayor must have regard to—
 - (a) the licensing policy statement published by the Mayor under section 8A, and
 - (b) the importance of promoting the licensing objectives.
- (4) Directions under subsection (1)(a) or (b) may have the effect of requiring a premises licence to be granted subject to different conditions in respect of—
 - (a) different parts of the premises concerned;
 - (b) different licensable activities.
- (5) A direction under this section must state the Mayor's reasons for giving the direction.
- (6) For the purposes of subsection (1)(b)(i) the conditions mentioned in subsection (1)(a)(i) are modified if any of them is altered or omitted or any new condition is added.
- (7) For the purposes of subsection (1)(b)(i), a modification to a condition is "permitted" if—

- (a) it is a modification specified in the decision of the London licensing authority in relation to the application under section 18, or
- (b) in the Mayor's opinion it is less restrictive than that modification.

25D Issue of licence etc by licensing authority

- (1) A London licensing authority that grants a licence on a direction under section 25C(1)(a) to (c) must as soon as possible –
 - (a) give notice that the licence is granted to –
 - (i) the applicant,
 - (ii) each responsible authority in relation to the premises to which the application relates,
 - (iii) any person who made relevant representations under section 18 in respect of the application, and
 - (iv) the chief officer of police for the police area (or each police area) in which the premises are situated, and
 - (b) issue the applicant with the licence and a summary of it.
- (2) A London licensing authority that rejects an application on a direction under section 25C(1)(d) must as soon as possible give notice that the application is rejected to –
 - (a) the applicant,
 - (b) each responsible authority in relation to the premises to which the application relates,
 - (c) any person who made relevant representations under section 18 in respect of the application, and
 - (d) the chief officer of police for the police area (or each police area) in which the premises are situated.
- (3) A notice under subsection (1) or (2) must state the Mayor's reasons for giving the direction as notified to the London licensing authority under section 25C(6)."

4H After section 34 insert –

“34A Applications to vary of potential strategic importance: Greater London

- (1) A London licensing authority must as soon as possible give notice to the Greater London Authority of any application made to it under section 34 that is a relevant application.
- (2) A “relevant application” is an application to vary a premises licence in Greater London where the premises are, or would after the variation be, used for one or more of the following activities –
 - (a) the sale by retail of alcohol;
 - (b) the provision of regulated entertainment;
 - (c) the provision of late night refreshment.

- (3) The Greater London Authority must give notice to each interested party if the Authority considers that the relevant application is an application to vary of potential strategic importance to Greater London.
- (4) On receipt of a notice under subsection (3), the London licensing authority must as soon as reasonably practicable advertise the determination of the Greater London Authority.
- (5) The Secretary of State must by regulations specify the form and manner in which an advertisement under subsection (4) must be made.
- (6) For the purposes of subsection (3) “application to vary of potential strategic importance to Greater London” is to be interpreted in accordance with regulations made by the Secretary of State.
- (7) In this section, an “interested party” in relation to an application means —
 - (a) the London licensing authority that the application was made to;
 - (b) the applicant;
 - (c) each responsible authority in relation to the premises to which the application relates.”

4I In section 35 (determination of application under section 34), after subsection (7) insert —

- “(8) Where a London licensing authority is to hold a hearing in accordance with subsection (3) in relation to an application to vary of potential strategic importance to Greater London, the authority must give to the Greater London Authority —
 - (a) in advance of the hearing, specified information relating to the hearing within the specified period;
 - (b) following the hearing, specified information relating to the hearing within the specified period.
- (9) In this section —
 - “application to vary of potential strategic importance to Greater London” means an application to vary a premises licence that has been notified to the London licensing authority by the Greater London Authority under section 34A(3);
 - “specified” means specified in regulations made by the Secretary of State.”

4J After section 41 insert —

“Power of Mayor of London to determine applications to vary

41ZA Power of the Mayor of London to determine applications to vary

- (1) This section applies where, on an application to vary of potential strategic importance to Greater London, a London licensing authority —

- (a) grants an application to vary a premises licence in whole under section 35 and modifies the conditions of the licence under subsection (4)(a) of that section,
 - (b) rejects an application to vary a premises licence in whole under section 35(4)(b), or
 - (c) rejects an application to vary a premises licence in part under section 35(4)(b) (whether with or without modifying the conditions of the licence).
- (2) The London licensing authority must as soon as possible give notice to the applicant and the Greater London Authority of –
 - (a) its decision to grant the application and modify the conditions of the licence and the reasons for doing so,
 - (b) its decision to reject the whole of the application and the reasons for doing so, or
 - (c) its decision to reject part of the application with or without modifying the conditions of the licence and the reasons for doing so.
- (3) But the decision of the London licensing authority in relation to the application does not otherwise have effect unless and until –
 - (a) the Mayor of London gives notice under subsection (6) of a decision under subsection (5)(b), or
 - (b) the obligations on the Mayor of London under this section or section 41ZB cease to apply (see section 41ZC).
- (4) Accordingly, the London licensing authority must not take any steps under this Act in relation to the decision (including taking steps under section 56) unless and until the circumstances in subsection (3)(a) or (b) apply.
- (5) The Mayor of London must by the end of the specified period decide –
 - (a) to give a direction to the London licensing authority in relation to the application (see section 41ZB), or
 - (b) that the decision of the London licensing authority in relation to the application is to have effect for the purposes of this Act (and, accordingly, any requirements in relation to that decision now apply).
- (6) The Mayor of London must give notice of the Mayor’s decision under subsection (5) to –
 - (a) each interested party;
 - (b) any person who made relevant representations in relation to the application under section 35.
- (7) On receipt of a notice under subsection (6), the London licensing authority must as soon as reasonably practicable advertise the decision of the Mayor.

- (8) The Secretary of State must by regulations specify the form and manner in which an advertisement under subsection (7) must be made.
- (9) In this section –
 - “application to vary of potential strategic importance to Greater London” means an application to vary a premises licence that has been notified to the London licensing authority by the Greater London Authority under section 34A(3) as being of potential strategic importance to Greater London;
 - “interested party” has the same meaning as in section 34A;
 - “specified” means specified in regulations made by the Secretary of State.

41ZB Directions by the Mayor of London

- (1) Where section 41ZA(5)(a) applies the Mayor of London must direct the London licensing authority –
 - (a) to grant the application in whole with or without such permitted modifications to the conditions of the licence as may be specified in the direction,
 - (b) to reject the application in whole, or
 - (c) to grant part of the application with or without such permitted modifications to the conditions of the licence as may be specified in the direction (and to reject the other part of the application).
- (2) The London licensing authority must grant or reject the application in accordance with the direction given under subsection (1).
- (3) Subsection (1)(a) and (c) are subject to sections 19 to 21 (which require certain conditions to be included in premises licences).
- (4) A direction under this section may not require a licence to be varied so as –
 - (a) to extend the period for which the licence has effect, or
 - (b) to vary substantially the premises to which it relates.
- (5) Directions given under this section may have the effect of requiring a premises licence to be varied so as to have effect subject to different conditions in respect of –
 - (a) different parts of the premises concerned;
 - (b) different licensable activities.
- (6) When giving a direction under this section the Mayor must have regard to –
 - (a) the licensing policy statement published by the Mayor under section 8A, and
 - (b) the importance of promoting the licensing objectives.
- (7) A direction under this section must state the Mayor’s reasons for giving that direction.

- (8) In this section, “application to vary of potential strategic importance to Greater London” has the meaning given in section 41ZA(9).
- (9) For the purposes of subsection (1)(a) and (c), the conditions are modified if any of them is altered or omitted or any new condition is added.
- (10) For the purposes of subsection (1), a modification to a condition is “permitted” if—
 - (a) it is a modification specified in the decision of the London licensing authority in relation to the application under section 35, or
 - (b) in the Mayor’s opinion it is less restrictive than that modification.

41ZC Intervening decision by a London licensing authority

- (1) The obligations on the Mayor of London under section 41ZA(5) or 41ZB in relation to an application to vary of potential strategic importance to Greater London cease to apply if the conditions in subsection (2) are met in relation to the obligation in question.
- (2) The conditions in this subsection are met if—
 - (a) the London licensing authority that made the decision under section 35 in relation to the application to vary the premises licence has, before the relevant time, made an intervening decision in relation to the licence, and
 - (b) the authority has given notice of that decision to the Mayor of London.
- (3) In this section, an “intervening decision” means a decision—
 - (a) to take any of the steps under section 52(4) on an application for review of the licence;
 - (b) to take any of the steps under section 53C(3) on an application by a senior police officer for review of the licence;
 - (c) to take any of the steps under section 167(6) on a review of the licence following a closure order.
- (4) The “relevant time” for the purposes of subsection (2)(a)—
 - (a) in relation to the obligation to make a decision under section 41ZA(5), is the time at which the Mayor makes the decision,
 - (b) in relation to an obligation to give a direction under section 41ZB, is the time at which a direction is so given.

41ZD Notification by the London licensing authority

- (1) A London licensing authority that grants an application (or any part of an application) on a direction under section 41ZB must as soon as possible give notice to that effect to—
 - (a) the applicant,

- (b) each responsible authority in relation to the premises to which the application relates,
 - (c) any person who made relevant representations in respect of the application, and
 - (d) the chief officer of police for the police area (or each police area) in which the premises are situated.
 - (2) The notice under subsection (1) must—
 - (a) specify the time when any variation takes effect, and
 - (b) specify any modifications to conditions of the licence.
 - (3) The time for the purposes of subsection (2) is the time specified in the application or, if that time is before the applicant is given notice under this section, such later time as the London licensing authority specifies in the notice.
 - (4) A London licensing authority that rejects an application (or any part of an application) on a direction under section 41ZB must as soon as possible give notice to that effect to—
 - (a) the applicant,
 - (b) each responsible authority in relation to the premises to which the application relates,
 - (c) any person who made relevant representations in respect of the application, and
 - (d) the chief officer of police for the police area (or each police area) in which the premises are situated.
 - (5) A notice under subsection (1) or (4) must state the Mayor’s reasons for giving the direction as notified to the London licensing authority under section 41ZB(7).”
- 4K In section 54 (form of applications and notices)—
- (a) in paragraph (a), after “form” insert “or content”;
 - (b) after paragraph (b) insert—
 - “(ba) the period within which it is to be made or given”.
- 4L In section 56 (licensing authority’s duty to update licence document), in subsection (1), after paragraph (a) insert—
- “(aa) a London licensing authority, in relation to a premises licence, is subject to a direction under section 41ZB (directions by Mayor of London),”.
- 4M In section 181 (appeals against decisions of licensing authorities)—
- (a) in the heading, after “licensing authorities” insert “or the Mayor of London”;
 - (b) in subsection (1), after “licensing authorities” insert “or the Mayor of London”;
 - (c) in subsection (2), in the opening words, after “licensing authority” insert “or the Mayor of London”;

- (d) in subsection (2)(b), after “authority” insert “or (as the case may be) the Mayor”;
- (e) in subsection (2)(c), after “authority” insert “or (as the case may be) the Mayor”.

4N In section 185 (provision of information) –

- (a) in subsection (1) –
 - (i) the words from “information which” to the end become paragraph (a);
 - (ii) after that paragraph insert “, and
 - (b) information which is held by or on behalf of the Mayor of London in connection with the Mayor’s functions under this Act.”;
- (b) in subsection (2) –
 - (i) at the end of paragraph (a) omit “or”;
 - (ii) at the end of paragraph (b) insert “or
 - (c) to the Mayor of London.”;
 - (iii) in the closing words, after “functions” insert “or the Mayor’s functions”;
- (c) in subsection (3), for “or responsible authority” substitute “, responsible authority or the Mayor of London”.

4P In Schedule 5 (appeals) –

- (a) after paragraph 1 insert –

“1A Where the Mayor of London gives a direction to a London licensing authority –

 - (a) to reject an application for a premises licence under section 25C, or
 - (b) to reject (in whole or in part) an application to vary a premises licence under section 41ZB,

the applicant may appeal against the direction.”;
- (b) after paragraph 2 insert –

“2A (1) This paragraph applies where the Mayor of London gives a direction to a London licensing authority under section 25C to grant a premises licence.

(2) The holder of the licence may appeal against the following aspects of any such direction –

 - (a) to impose conditions on the licence under subsection (1)(a)(i) of that section;
 - (b) to impose conditions on the licence under subsection (1)(b)(i) of that section;
 - (c) to exclude licensable activities from the scope of the licence;
 - (d) to refuse to specify a person in the licence as the premises supervisor.

- (3) A person who made relevant representations in relation to the application under section 18 may appeal against the Mayor's direction to grant the licence on the following basis –
 - (a) that the licence ought not to have been granted, or
 - (b) that the direction ought to have imposed different or additional conditions under section 25C(1)(b)(i), or to have taken a step mentioned in section 25C(1)(c)(i) or (ii).”;
- (c) in the heading of paragraph 4, after “35” insert “or 41ZB”;
- (d) after paragraph 4 insert –

“4A (1) This paragraph applies where the Mayor of London gives a direction to a London licensing authority under section 41ZB to grant an application to vary a premises licence (in whole or in part).

(2) The applicant may appeal against any direction under that section to modify the conditions of the licence.

(3) A person who made relevant representations in relation to the application under section 35 may appeal against the Mayor's direction to grant the application on the following basis –

 - (a) that any variation made ought not to have been made, or
 - (b) that, when directing the licence to be varied, the Mayor ought not to have directed that permitted modifications be made to the conditions of the licence, or ought to have directed that different permitted modifications be made to the conditions.

(4) In sub-paragraph (3), “permitted modifications” has the meaning given in section 41ZB(10).”
- (e) in paragraph 9 –
 - (i) in sub-paragraph (2), for the words from “the day” to the end substitute –
 - “(a) on an appeal under paragraph 1A, 2A or 4A, the day on which the appellant was notified of the outcome of the direction appealed against, and
 - (b) on any other appeal under this Part, the day on which the appellant was notified by the licensing authority of the decision appealed against.”;
 - (ii) after sub-paragraph (3) insert –

“(3A) On an appeal under paragraph 2A(3) or 4A(3), the holder of the premises licence is to be the respondent in addition to the Mayor of London.””

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment inserts provisions into the Licensing Act 2003 to give the Mayor of London the power to make a new determination on applications to grant or vary premises licences in Greater London if the Mayor considers that the application is of potential strategic importance to Greater London.

BARONESS TAYLOR OF STEVENAGE

Schedule 24, page 263, line 8, leave out “2 to 4” and insert “1A to 4P”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment is consequential on the amendment in my name inserting new provisions into the Licensing Act 2003 to confer powers on the GLA and the Mayor of London.

BARONESS TAYLOR OF STEVENAGE

Schedule 24, page 263, leave out lines 17 to 30

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment is consequential on the amendment in my name inserting new provisions into the Licensing Act 2003 to confer powers on the GLA and the Mayor of London.

Schedule 25

LORD HARRIS OF HARINGEY

- ★ Schedule 25, page 266, line 13, at end insert—

“(ea) the London Local Authorities Joint Committee;”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment requires the Secretary of State to consult the London Local Authorities Joint Committee (established by another amendment in Lord Harris of Haringey's name) before making regulations under paragraph 3 of Schedule 25 to the Bill.

LORD HARRIS OF HARINGEY

- ★ Schedule 25, page 266, line 26, at end insert—

““London Local Authorities Joint Committee” means the committee established under section (London Local Authorities Joint Committee).”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment is connected to another amendment to Schedule 25 in Lord Harris of Haringey's name, requiring the Secretary of State to consult the London Local Authorities Joint Committee before making regulations under paragraph 3 of Schedule 25 to the Bill.

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK
LORD JAMIESON

The above-named Lords give notice of their intention to oppose the Question that Schedule 25 be the Twenty-Fifth Schedule to the Bill.

Member's explanatory statement

By opposing this Question, Baroness Scott of Bybrook seeks to probe and clarify what functions may be delegated to mayors under future regulations.

After Clause 56

LORD GASCOIGNE

After Clause 56, insert the following new Clause —

“Functions of strategic authorities

For each function devolved to a strategic authority, the Secretary of State must ensure that the corresponding function ceases to be exercisable by any Minister of the Crown or government department, save insofar as is necessary for limited national oversight or compliance with international obligations.”

Member's explanatory statement

This new clause ensures that there is not a doubling up of powers being devolved yet the delivery function (and funding) is retained in Whitehall.

LORD GASCOIGNE

After Clause 56, insert the following new Clause —

“Powers of strategic authorities

Before new powers are conferred on a strategic authority, the Secretary of State must be satisfied that the strategic authority has a plan which will improve local services, drive efficiency and improve cost effectiveness.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment seeks to ensure that before changes are made, each strategic authority has a plan to ensure improved services and value for money for the tax payer.

LORD WALLACE OF SALTIRE

After Clause 56, insert the following new Clause —

“Duty to ensure public trust and financial transparency

- (1) The mayor for the area of a combined authority or combined county authority must take reasonable steps to ensure that information regarding the authority’s financial affairs, including its annual budget, significant expenditure, and financial

performance, is made accessible to local communities in a clear and understandable manner.

- (2) The mayor must publish a policy setting out how the combined authority or combined county authority will engage with local communities on its financial priorities and major spending decisions, and review this policy periodically.”

Member's explanatory statement

This new clause requires mayors of CAs and CCAs to ensure that financial information is accessible and understandable to local communities.

LORD RAVENSDALE
LORD EVANS OF RAINOW
LORD BLUNKETT

After Clause 56, insert the following new Clause —

“Social mobility monitoring and reporting

- (1) In their delivery of functions under this Act, strategic authorities must consult with the Social Mobility Commission on how to collect meaningful and robust evidence of social mobility outcomes as a result of devolution arrangements.
- (2) Social mobility data collected by strategic authorities under subsection (1) must be broken down by socio-economic background, and must include information regarding —
 - (a) occupation,
 - (b) educational attainment, and
 - (c) income.”

LORD RAVENSDALE
LORD EVANS OF RAINOW
LORD BLUNKETT

After Clause 56, insert the following new Clause —

“Social mobility monitoring and reporting

- (1) The Secretary of State must publish an annual report to assess the actions taken by strategic authorities to improve social mobility and address socio-economic disadvantage.
- (2) For the purposes of subsection (1) the Secretary of State must consult the Social Mobility Commission in preparing the report.”

BARONESS JANKE

After Clause 56, insert the following new Clause –

“Fiscal devolution

- (1) The Secretary of State must, within 12 months of the day on which this Act is passed, lay before Parliament proposals for the devolution of fiscal powers to local authorities and combined authorities in England.
- (2) Proposals under subsection (1) must include provision for –
 - (a) the assignment or devolution of revenue-raising powers,
 - (b) increased flexibility over the setting and use of local taxes and charges, and
 - (c) multi-year financial settlements to support long-term local decision-making.
- (3) In preparing proposals under this section, the Secretary of State must consult local authorities, combined authorities, and such other persons as the Secretary of State considers appropriate.”

Member's explanatory statement

This new clause would require the Secretary of State to bring forward proposals for fiscal devolution, including greater local revenue-raising powers, tax flexibility, and longer-term funding settlements.

LORD BICHARD

★

After Clause 56, insert the following new Clause –

“Local public accounts committees

- (1) Within one year of the day on which this Act is passed, the Secretary of State must by regulations make provision for the establishment of a public accounts committee in each mayoral strategic authority area (“local public accounts committees”).
- (2) Regulations made under this section must –
 - (a) make provision relating to the membership of local public accounts committees, including appointment, tenure, and arrangements for chairing of committees;
 - (b) make provision about support for local public accounts committees by the relevant local audit services;
 - (c) empower local public accounts committees to require the provision of information from all providers of public services in the mayoral strategic authority area;
 - (d) make provision about the functions of local public accounts committees, including the power of the committees to report on the effectiveness with which –
 - (i) mayoral strategic authorities exercise any of their functions;
 - (ii) any local partners exercise functions on behalf of the strategic mayoral authority;
 - (iii) any local partners collaborate with the mayoral strategic authority;

- (iv) local public service partners (as defined by section (*Duty of local service partners to cooperate*) of this Act) collaborate.
- (3) Regulations under this section are subject to affirmative resolution procedure.
- (4) For the purposes of this section, “local partner” has the meaning given in section 17B of the Levelling-up and Regeneration Act 2023 (as inserted by section 21 of this Act).”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment seeks to introduce Local Public Accounts Committees within one year of this Act coming into force. LPACs would ensure scrutiny and accountability across the whole of the local public service spending and activity.

After Clause 58

BARONESS PINNOCK

★

After Clause 58, insert the following new Clause –

“Duty to review parish and town councils

- (1) It is the duty of the Secretary of State to review parish and town councils in England to assess their number, functions, and effectiveness in local governance.
- (2) In carrying out that duty, the Secretary of State must, in particular, take steps to ensure maximal geographical coverage of parish and town councils as a form of local democratic representation.
- (3) The Secretary of State must, annually, lay a report before each House of Parliament on the discharge of the duty under subsection (1), including any action taken or proposed to achieve the purpose in subsection (2).”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment requires the Secretary of State to review parish and town councils and take steps to maximise their geographical coverage, with an annual report to Parliament.

Clause 59

LORD BLUNKETT
BARONESS BENNETT OF MANOR CASTLE
LORD MOHAMMED OF TINSLEY

The above-named Lords give notice of their intention to oppose the Question that Clause 59 stand part of the Bill.

Schedule 27

BARONESS TAYLOR OF STEVENAGE

Schedule 27, page 283, line 10, leave out “or remained”

Member's explanatory statement

The Local Government Act 2000 does not provide for a local authority to pass a resolution to retain the Committee system and so this provision does not need to deal with such a resolution.

BARONESS TAYLOR OF STEVENAGE

Schedule 27, page 283, line 11, after “resolution” insert “under this Part”

Member's explanatory statement

This would make clear that a resolution to change to the committee system must be provided for by Part 1A of the Local Government Act 2000.

BARONESS TAYLOR OF STEVENAGE

Schedule 27, page 283, line 36, after “resolution” insert “under this Part”

Member's explanatory statement

This would make clear that a resolution to change to the committee system must be provided for by Part 1A of the Local Government Act 2000.

BARONESS TAYLOR OF STEVENAGE

Schedule 27, page 283, line 37, leave out “or remained”

Member's explanatory statement

The Local Government Act 2000 does not provide for a local authority to pass a resolution to retain the Committee system and so this provision does not need to deal with such a resolution.

LORD PARKINSON OF WHITLEY BAY
LORD BLACK OF BRENTWOOD
BARONESS STOWELL OF BEESTON
LORD STOREY

Schedule 27, page 286, line 16, leave out paragraph 6

LORD BLUNKETT

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

Clause 60

LORD WALLACE OF SALTAIRE

Clause 60, page 61, line 27, at end insert —

- “(2A) In making regulations under subsection (2), it is the general duty of the Secretary of State to ensure that such regulations promote the role, involvement, and authority of locally elected councils in the governance of neighbourhood areas.
- (2B) It is also the general duty of the Secretary of State, in making regulations under subsection (2), to encourage local decision-making as close as practicable to the neighbourhoods affected.”

LORD BASSAM OF BRIGHTON

★

Clause 60, page 61, line 27, at end insert —

- “(2A) Regulations made under subsection (2) must secure that, where one or more parish or town councils exist within a neighbourhood area, any neighbourhood governance body established for that neighbourhood area includes at least one representative of those parish or town councils.
- (2B) Regulations made under subsection (2) must secure that a representative included by virtue of subsection (2A) is entitled to participate in the proceedings of the neighbourhood governance body on the same basis as other members.
- (2C) Where no parish or town council exists within a neighbourhood area, regulations made under subsection (2) must secure that appropriate alternative provision is made for democratic and community representation for that area.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment requires regulations made under Clause 60 to ensure that, where parish or town councils exist within a neighbourhood area, they are represented on any neighbourhood governance body established for that area.

LORD LANSLEY
BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK
LORD JAMIESON

Clause 60, page 61, line 32, at end insert —

- “(aa) that structures under paragraph (a) must, wherever reasonably practicable, retain and strengthen the role and functions of existing Town and Parish Councils in securing effective neighbourhood governance;”

LORD LANSLEY

Clause 60, page 61, line 39, at end insert –

- “(e) about the means by which effective community engagement and the empowerment of neighbourhoods in relation to decisions affecting their area may be realised.”

After Clause 60

LORD LANSLEY

★

After Clause 60, insert the following new Clause –

“Constitution of new parishes

- (1) In section 87 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 (constitution of new parish) –
 - (a) after subsection (1) insert –

“(1A) Notwithstanding any requirement for a community governance review, the Secretary of State may, by order, direct that new parishes are to be constituted in any unparished area.”;
 - (b) In section (4) after “the review” insert “or a direction by the Secretary of State”.
- (2) The Secretary of State must issue guidance under section 100 to secure that unparished areas are brought into a parished area wherever reasonably practicable.”

Clause 61

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK
LORD JAMIESON

The above-named Lords give notice of their intention to oppose the Question that Clause 61 stand part of the Bill.

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment removes the provisions which make changes to the supplementary vote system.

After Clause 61

LORD PACK
BARONESS PINNOCK

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
BARONESS PINNOCK

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.

BARONESS PINNOCK

★ After Clause 61, insert the following new Clause —

“Councillors: proportional representation vote system

- (1) The Secretary of State may by regulations introduce a proportional representation vote system in elections of local authority councillors.
- (2) The regulations in subsection (1) are subject to the affirmative resolution procedure.”

Member's explanatory statement

This new clause would allow the Secretary of State to introduce a proportional representation voting system for local authority councillors.

Schedule 28

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK
LORD JAMIESON

The above-named Lords give notice of their intention to oppose the Question that Schedule 28 be the Twenty-Eighth Schedule to the Bill.

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment, and another tabled by Baroness Scott of Bybrook, removes the provisions which make changes to the supplementary vote system.

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.

LORD PACK
BARONESS PINNOCK

After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause —

“Voting by proxy: local councillors

- (1) The Secretary of State must by regulations make provision to allow councillors of local authorities to vote by proxy.
- (2) Regulations under this section under this section are subject to affirmative resolution procedure.
- (3) Regulations may include provision about —
 - (a) eligibility to vote by proxy,
 - (b) appointment and verification of proxies,
 - (c) the form and manner of proxy voting, and
 - (d) any other matters the Secretary of State considers necessary or expedient to facilitate proxy voting.
- (4) Regulations under this section may make different provision for different types of local authority, or for different classes of councillor, if the Secretary of State considers it appropriate.”

LORD PACK
BARONESS PINNOCK

After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

“Remote participation by councillors in local authority meetings

- (1) The Secretary of State must lay regulations to make provision to enable councillors of local authorities to participate in meetings remotely within three months of the day on which this Act is passed.
- (2) For the purposes of this section, “remotely” means participating in proceedings by electronic or other communication technology that allows councillors to contribute to the proceedings as if attending in person.
- (3) Regulations under this section are subject to affirmative resolution procedure.
- (4) Regulations may include provision about –
 - (a) the form and manner of remote participation,
 - (b) voting rights and procedures while participating remotely,
 - (c) access to information and documents for councillors participating remotely, and
 - (d) any other matters the Secretary of State considers necessary or expedient for remote participation.
- (5) Regulations under this section may make different provision for different types of local authority, or for different classes of councillor, if the Secretary of State considers it appropriate.”

After Clause 63

BARONESS MCINTOSH OF PICKERING
THE EARL OF CLANCARTY

After Clause 63, insert the following new Clause –

“Agent of change: integration of new development with existing businesses and facilities

- (1) In this section –
 - “agent of change principle” means the principle requiring planning policies and decisions to ensure that new development can be integrated effectively with existing businesses and community facilities so that those businesses and facilities do not have unreasonable restrictions placed on them as a result of developments permitted after they were established;
 - “development” has the same meaning as in section 55 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (meaning of “development” and “new development”);
 - “licensing functions” has the same meaning as in section 4(1) of the Licensing Act 2003 (general duties of licensing authorities);

“provision of regulated entertainment” has the same meaning as in Schedule 1 to the Licensing Act 2003 (provision of regulated entertainment).

- (2) In exercising any functions under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 or any licensing functions concerning development which is or is likely to be affected by an existing business or facility, a local authority shall have special regard to the agent of change principle.
- (3) An application for development within the vicinity of any premises licensed for the provision of regulated entertainment shall contain a noise impact assessment.
- (4) In determining whether noise emitted by or from an existing business or community facility constitutes a nuisance to a residential development, the decision-maker shall have regard to—
 - (a) the chronology of the introduction of the relevant noise source and the residential development, and
 - (b) what steps have been taken by the developer to mitigate the entry of noise from the existing business or facility to the residential development.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would place a duty on local authorities to have regard to the agent of change principle when exercising development or licensing functions.

Schedule 29

BARONESS HOEY

★

Schedule 29, page 311, line 5, at end insert “and the market value is to be assessed in accordance with section 14A(3) of the Land Compensation Act 1961 (cases where prospect of planning permission to be ignored)”

After Clause 73

LORD PACK
BARONESS PIDGEON

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.”

LORD BICHARD

★ After Clause 73, insert the following new Clause –

“Duty of local service partners to cooperate

- (1) The Secretary of State must by regulations designate certain persons or bodies as local public service partners for the purposes of this section.
- (2) Regulations under subsection (1) must include –
 - (a) integrated care boards and NHS Trusts,
 - (b) police and fire authorities, and
 - (c) any other public service provider,exercising functions wholly or partly in the area of the strategic authority or principal council.
- (3) A local public service partner in subsection (2) must, in exercising its functions so far as they affect that area, cooperate with –
 - (a) the strategic authority, and
 - (b) the principal councils for that area.
- (4) The duty to cooperate under subsection (3) includes –
 - (a) a duty to attend any meeting reasonably convened by the mayor of the strategic authority under section 21 (or by the strategic authority acting collectively), when given due notice,
 - (b) a duty to provide information and assistance to the strategic authority and principal councils, insofar as reasonably required to facilitate the exercise of their functions or any joint planning of services for that area, and
 - (c) a duty to engage constructively, actively and on an ongoing basis with the strategic authority and principal councils when formulating or implementing policies, plans or services that affect the area.
- (5) In performing the duty under subsection (3), a local public service partner must have regard to any guidance issues by the Secretary of State on the implementation of the whole-area public service collaboration.
- (6) Regulations under this section are subject to affirmative resolution procedure.
- (7) In this section, “principal councils” means the county, district or London borough councils (including the Common Council of the City of London) whose territories lie within the area of the strategic authority.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment seeks to introduce a statutory duty on local public service partners (such as NHS bodies and police and fire authorities) to cooperate with strategic authorities and principal councils. It ensures reciprocal engagement in local decision-making, service planning and policy implementation, strengthening whole-area collaboration across public services.

BARONESS PINNOCK

★ After Clause 73, insert the following new Clause —

“Civil enforcement powers of local authorities

- (1) The Secretary of State may by regulations make provision enabling local authorities to undertake civil enforcement of obligations imposed by or under any enactment or subordinate legislation for which they are responsible.
- (2) Regulations under this section may, in particular, make provision about —
 - (a) the nature and scope of civil enforcement powers that may be exercised;
 - (b) the imposition of penalties, fines, or remedial requirements;
 - (c) procedures to secure compliance with obligations;
 - (d) safeguards to ensure enforcement is proportionate, transparent, and consistent with relevant statutory and procedural requirements.
- (3) A statutory instrument containing regulations under this section may not be made unless a draft has been laid before and approved by resolution of each House of Parliament.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment enables the Secretary of State to make regulations granting local authorities civil enforcement powers, with such regulations subject to the affirmative resolution procedure in both Houses.

BARONESS BOYCOTT

★ After Clause 73, insert the following new Clause —

“Community cultivation schemes

- (1) The Secretary of State must by regulations make provision for a system that requires any local authority to maintain a list of land in its area suitable for community cultivation, and permits residents to cultivate suitable land held by public authorities for the purpose of growing food crops or environmental protection, within the meaning of section 45 of the Environment Act 2021, on condition that requirements prescribed by the regulations are met.
- (2) Requirements prescribed by the regulations may, among other things, include requirements to —
 - (a) set out the meaning of “community cultivation” and “meanwhile use leases”;
 - (b) set out what land is suitable and who can nominate land as being suitable;
 - (c) establish parameters around how long a piece of land would need to be available to be considered as suitable, with a principle that any land granted for the purpose of community cultivation is not granted in perpetuity;
 - (d) require local authorities to publish lists of land suitable for cultivation.
- (3) Regulations under this section are subject to the affirmative resolution procedure.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would require the Secretary of State to place a requirement on strategic, combined and local authorities to publish a list of all publicly owned land in their locality which was suitable for either the purposes of community cultivation or environmental improvement, and to allow community groups to bid on listed areas of land to use them for either of the aforementioned purposes.

Clause 74

LORD SHIPLEY

Clause 74, page 70, line 20, at end insert –

- “(3) In performing its functions, the Local Audit Office must pay immediate regard to and investigate any issues concerning risk management identified by audit committees established under section 33A.”

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK
LORD JAMIESON

The above-named Lords give notice of their intention to oppose the Question that Clause 74 stand part of the Bill.

Member's explanatory statement

This is a probing amendment which seeks to understand why a Local Audit Office is necessary.

Clause 75

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK
LORD JAMIESON

Clause 75, page 72, leave out lines 5 to 23

Member's explanatory statement

This is a probing amendment designed to understand why the Government proposes creating a Local Audit Office to maintain a register of audit providers if the LAO will also have the power to designate another organisation as the external registration body responsible for holding such a register.

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK
LORD JAMIESON

Clause 75, page 72, leave out lines 20 to 23

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment removes the LAO's ability to charge fees.

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK
LORD JAMIESON

Clause 75, page 74, leave out lines 5 to 11

Member's explanatory statement

This probing amendment removes the clause to seek clarity on why the Local Audit Office should be given powers to form, acquire interests in, or provide financial or other assistance to audit firms. The intention is to understand the rationale for allowing the regulator to act as a market participant.

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK
LORD JAMIESON

Clause 75, page 74, line 19, at end insert—

- “(4) Where the Office decides to carry out local audits under this Act, it must comply with all statutory requirements and professional auditing standards applicable to local audit providers under the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014.
- (5) In particular, the Office must ensure that its audit practice is subject to the same regime of independent supervision, inspection and enforcement as applies to private firms approved to undertake local audits, including those arrangements overseen by the Financial Reporting Council and recognised supervisory bodies.
- (6) The Office must ensure that no part of its audit practice is exempt from the quality assurance, regulatory oversight or enforcement mechanisms that apply to any other local audit provider.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment seeks to ensure that, if the Local Audit Office elects to carry out local authority audits itself, its audit work will be subject to the same standards, scrutiny and independent oversight as apply to private firms undertaking local audits.

Clause 76

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK
LORD JAMIESON

Clause 76, page 75, line 7, at end insert—

- “(1A) The specific individual who acts as the Key Audit Partner (KAP) for a local council audit must rotate off the engagement after a maximum of 10 years.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment introduces a maximum ten-year rotation period for the individual acting as the Key Audit Partner (KAP) on a local council audit completed by the LAO.

Clause 79

LORD SHIPLEY

Clause 79, page 79, line 20, after “resources” insert “are planned to be used or”

LORD SHIPLEY

Clause 79, page 79, line 24, at the end insert –

“and making such reports and recommendations public where the audit committee concludes that it would be in the public interest to do so.”

Clause 85BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK
LORD JAMIESON

The above-named Lords give notice of their intention to oppose the Question that Clause 85 stand part of the Bill.

Member's explanatory statement

By opposing this clause and Schedule 34, Baroness Scott of Bybrook seeks to remove the ban on upward only rent reviews.

After Clause 85

LORD NORTON OF LOUTH

After Clause 85, insert the following new Clause –

“Review of the Act

- (1) The Secretary of State must –
 - (a) carry out a review of the operation and effect of this Act,
 - (b) set out the conclusions of the review in a report,
 - (c) publish the report, and
 - (d) lay a copy of the report before Parliament.
- (2) The report must be published before the end of the period of five years beginning with the day on which this Act is passed.
- (3) The report must, in particular –
 - (a) assess the extent to which the objectives intended to be achieved by this Act have been achieved, and
 - (b) assess whether those objectives remain appropriate and, if so, the extent to which they could be achieved more effectively in any other way.

- (4) In carrying out the review, the Secretary of State must publish an invitation for interested parties to make submissions on the operation of the Act.”

LORD SHIPLEY

After Clause 85, insert the following new Clause —

“Review of local and community banking powers

- (1) The Secretary of State must undertake a review of the powers available to local authorities and combined authorities to support local economic growth through banking and credit provision.
- (2) The review must, in particular, consider —
 - (a) the regulatory, supervisory and authorisation framework governing the establishment and operation of local, community and publicly owned banks,
 - (b) the extent to which local authorities and combined authorities may establish, support, participate in, or otherwise facilitate public or community banking institutions, and
 - (c) the impact of bank credit creation and allocation on —
 - (i) local and regional economic growth,
 - (ii) access to finance for small and medium-sized enterprises,
 - (iii) infrastructure investment, and
 - (iv) regional economic inequalities.
- (3) In conducting the review, the Secretary of State must assess whether existing legislative, regulatory or institutional arrangements inhibit the effective devolution of powers relating to local economic development.
- (4) The review must include recommendations for reform which the Secretary of State considers appropriate to support local economic growth and to advance the objectives of this Act.
- (5) The Secretary of State must publish a report of the review and lay it before Parliament within 12 months of the day on which this Act is passed.”

LORD SHIPLEY

After Clause 85, insert the following new Clause —

“Review of regional and national public spending

- (1) The Secretary of State must undertake a review of the levels of public spending available to the regions of England, and to local authorities and combined authorities, with a view to ensuring that all parts of England have sufficient potential for investment.
- (2) The review must —

- (a) examine the allocation of public funds across regions, and between local and combined authorities;
 - (b) identify any regional disparities in funding that negatively impact on particular areas;
 - (c) consider whether the current distribution of spending allows all areas adequate capacity to invest in public services and infrastructure;
 - (d) identify any measures that could improve equity and effectiveness in the distribution of funding.
- (3) The Secretary of State must lay a report on the findings of the review before Parliament no later than six months after the day on which this section comes into force.”

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK
LORD JAMIESON

After Clause 85, insert the following new Clause –

“Review of market impacts of rent review provisions

- (1) The Secretary of State must, within the period of 12 months beginning with the day on which section 85 comes into force, carry out a review of the impact of the rent review provisions introduced by that section.
- (2) The review must, in particular, consider the impact of those provisions on –
 - (a) the operation and efficiency of the commercial property market,
 - (b) levels of investment in commercial property,
 - (c) the supply and availability of business tenancies,
 - (d) rent-setting behaviour, including the setting of initial rents and alternative rent review mechanisms,
 - (e) landlord and tenant behaviour, including decisions to grant, renew, or terminate business tenancies, and
 - (f) the availability and terms of longer-duration commercial leases.
- (3) The Secretary of State must prepare and publish a report setting out the findings of the review.
- (4) The Secretary of State must lay a copy of the report before Parliament as soon as reasonably practicable after completing the review.”

THE LORD BISHOP OF MANCHESTER

After Clause 85, insert the following new Clause –

“Duty relating to community empowerment

- (1) Within one year beginning on the date on which this Act is passed, and each year thereafter, the Secretary of State must publish and lay before Parliament a report assessing the effectiveness of Part 5 of the Localism Act 2011 (Community empowerment).

- (2) The report must –
 - (a) consider the effectiveness of the provisions in Part 5 of the Localism Act 2011 against the criteria in subsection (3), and
 - (b) set out a plan for better meeting those criteria, including potential legislative provision.
- (3) The criteria are, in relation to people in England –
 - (a) access to a clean and healthy environment;
 - (b) access to land or space to play, roam, and swim;
 - (c) access to land for food growing;
 - (d) the ability to contribute to and challenge decisions made at a local level;
 - (e) access to, use of, and ability to propose acquisition of assets of community value.
- (4) Within the period of 21 days beginning on the day on which a Report is published under this section, a Minister of the Crown must move a motion in the House of Commons that the House has considered the Report.
- (5) In reckoning any period of 21 days under subsection (4), no account is taken of any time during which Parliament is dissolved or prorogued, or during which the House of Commons is adjourned for more than four days.”

Member's explanatory statement

This new clause would require the Government to report annually on the effectiveness of community empowerment measures under the Localism Act 2011. It requires that Ministers assess how well communities can access land, green space, and local decision-making mechanisms. The report must include plans to strengthen these rights, including potential new legislation.

LORD PACK



After Clause 85, insert the following new Clause –

“Repeal of uncommenced local government provisions

- (1) The following provisions are repealed –
 - (a) Schedule 8(20) to the Localism Act 2011 (regional strategies amendments to the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009);
 - (b) section 50(2), (3) and (7) of the Commons Act 2006 (schemes under the Commons Act 1899);
 - (c) section 69 of the Local Government Act 2003 (removal of power to prescribe rateable values);
 - (d) Schedule 27(68) to the Greater London Authority Act 1999 (consequential VAT amendments).
- (2) The repeals made by this section do not affect –
 - (a) the operation of any enactment amended or repealed by the provisions listed in subsection (1), or
 - (b) the continued force of any other provision of the Acts referred to in subsection (1).”

Member's explanatory statement

This new clause repeals a number of local government-related statutory provisions that have never been commenced and therefore have no legal effect. These provisions would have repealed or amended other enactments but were never brought into force. Their removal is a technical and housekeeping measure intended to tidy the statute book without making any substantive policy change.

Schedule 34

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK
LORD JAMIESON

The above-named Lords give notice of their intention to oppose the Question that Schedule 34 be the Thirty-Fourth Schedule to the Bill.

Member's explanatory statement

By opposing this Schedule and clause 85, Baroness Scott of Bybrook seeks to remove the ban on upward only rent reviews.

Clause 89

BARONESS MCINTOSH OF PICKERING
LORD CAMERON OF DILLINGTON

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 92

BARONESS TAYLOR OF STEVENAGE

Clause 92, page 87, line 19, leave out paragraphs (z2) and (z3)

Member's explanatory statement

This is consequential on the amendment of clause 92(6) which would provide for sections 62 and 73 and Schedule 30 to come into force two months after royal assent.

BARONESS TAYLOR OF STEVENAGE

Clause 92, page 88, line 21, at end insert —

“(z1) section 62 (publication of addresses of members etc in authority registers);
(z2) section 73 (and Schedule 30) (extension of general power of competence to English National Park authorities and the Broads Authority).”

Member's explanatory statement

This would provide for sections 62 and 73 and Schedule 30 to come into force two months after royal assent.

LORD PACK

Clause 92, page 88, line 24, at end insert “save that any provision of this Act which has not otherwise come into force shall do so on the fifth anniversary of the day on which this Act is passed.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment allows the Secretary of State to commence the Act by regulations but ensures that provisions contained in an Act of Parliament are implemented within a timeframe unless revoked by accordant legislation.

BARONESS TAYLOR OF STEVENAGE

Clause 92, page 88, line 26, leave out “regulations” and insert “secondary legislation”

Member's explanatory statement

This would make subsection (8) consistent with subsection (1)(c) (so that they both refer to the wider concept of “secondary legislation”).

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.

Title

BARONESS TAYLOR OF STEVENAGE

Title, line 2, leave out “councils” and insert “authorities”

Member's explanatory statement

This would change the long title of the Bill to refer to “local authorities” instead of “local councils”. This would reflect the inclusion of clause 73 and Schedule 30 in the House of Commons (which relate to National Park Authorities and the Broads Authority).

English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill

RUNNING LIST OF ALL AMENDMENTS IN GRAND COMMITTEE

*Tabled up to and including
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