

# English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill

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MARSHALLED  
LIST OF AMENDMENTS  
TO BE MOVED  
IN GRAND COMMITTEE

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*The amendments have been marshalled in accordance with the Instruction of 8th December 2025, as follows –*

Clauses 1 to 4	Clause 38
Schedule 1	Schedule 19
Clauses 5 and 6	Clause 39
Schedule 2	Schedule 20
Clauses 7 to 9	Clauses 40 to 43
Schedule 3	Schedule 21
Clauses 10 to 20	Clauses 44 to 46
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Clauses 21 to 23	Clause 47
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Clause 24	Clauses 48 to 50
Schedule 6	Schedule 24
Clause 25	Clauses 51 and 52
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Clauses 27 and 28	Clauses 58 and 59
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Clauses 29 and 30	Clauses 60 and 61
Schedule 10	Schedule 28
Clause 31	Clauses 62 and 63
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Schedules 13 and 14	Schedule 31
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Clause 35	Clauses 76 to 84
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Clause 36	Clause 85
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## Schedule 18

## Title

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

**Amendment  
No.**

**Before Clause 1**

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK  
LORD JAMIESON

1 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

2 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.*

LORD RAVENSDALE

3★ Clause 2, page 2, line 18, at beginning insert “energy,”

LORD FREYBERG

4 Clause 2, page 2, line 21, at end insert “, including through tourism”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment adds tourism to the “economic development and regeneration” area of competence for strategic authorities.*

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK  
LORD JAMIESON

5 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

6 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  
BARONESS BENNETT OF MANOR CASTLE

7 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

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

“(h) community engagement and empowerment.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment would add community engagement and empowerment to the list of areas of competence in Clause 2.*

## BARONESS BENNETT OF MANOR CASTLE

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

- “(h) reducing poverty and socio-economic inequality;
- (i) food security.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This addition makes tackling poverty and inequality, and food insecurity, areas of competence for strategic authorities.*

BARONESS PRASHAR  
BARONESS KEELEY

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

- “(h) culture and heritage”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment expands the list of competences available to Mayors and Strategic Authorities to include an eighth competence: culture and heritage.*

**After Clause 2**BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK  
LORD JAMIESON

11 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

12 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  
BARONESS BENNETT OF MANOR CASTLE

13 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

14 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

15 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

**16** Schedule 1, page 89, line 15, leave out 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

**17** Schedule 1, page 89, line 33, leave out 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

**18** 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

**19** 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

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

LORD LANSLEY

21 Schedule 1, page 92, line 35, leave out paragraph (d)

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK  
LORD JAMIESON

22 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

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

LORD LANSLEY

24 Schedule 1, page 94, line 16, leave out from “order” to end of line 19 and insert “—

- (a) having regard to the importance of the economic, social or environmental wellbeing of some or all of the people of the area in relation to the areas of competence of the authority, and
- (b) in relation to a proposal under section 109A that the authority may be expected to achieve the purposes specified under subsection (7) of that section.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment would require the “statutory test”, which is to be met, to be based upon substantive benefits and to meet the stated purposes.*

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK  
LORD JAMIESON

25 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

26 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

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

BARONESS PINNOCK

28 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

29 Schedule 1, page 102, line 36, leave out 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

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

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK  
LORD JAMIESON

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

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK  
LORD JAMIESON

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

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK  
LORD JAMIESON

33 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

34 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

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

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK  
LORD JAMIESON

36 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

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

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK  
LORD JAMIESON

**38** 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

**39** 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

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

**Clause 6**

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK  
LORD JAMIESON

**41★** Clause 6, page 3, line 32, leave out from “CCA” to end of line 33

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This probing amendment seeks to explore the justification for providing the mayor with a veto over decisions of a Combined County Authority.*

LORD LANSLEY

**42★** Clause 6, page 4, line 6, at end insert “or such voting power as may be determined under section 10(2)(b)”

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK  
LORD JAMIESON

**43★** Clause 6, page 5, line 20, leave out “and such a majority must include the mayor, or the deputy mayor acting in place of the mayor”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This probing amendment seeks to question why decisions of a Combined County Authority must require the agreement of the mayor, rather than being determined by a majority of members.*

LORD LANSLEY

44★

Clause 6, page 5, line 29, at end insert “, or such voting power as may be determined in accordance with the provisions of section 84(2)(b) of the Local Transport Act 2008 (constitutional arrangements) as applied to the combined authority by section 104(1) of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 (constitution and functions: transport).”

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.*

**Schedule 2**

LORD LANSLEY

45

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.””

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment links the local growth plan to the preparation of the spatial development strategy.*

LORD LANSLEY

46

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 (5) insert—
- “(5A) In preparing a spatial development strategy, the strategic planning authority must have regard to the Environmental Improvement Plan

prepared under section 8 of the Environment Act 2021 and any Land Use Framework for England which has been published and laid before Parliament by the Secretary of State.””

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment will ensure that a spatial development strategy takes account of national Environmental Improvement Plans and the Land Use Framework.*

**Clause 8**

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK  
LORD JAMIESON

47 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

48 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.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment and another to Clause 8 in the name of Lord Lansley give a basis for deciding whether a mayoral CCA or a mayoral combined authority proposals have substantive merit. They also provide for substantive criteria for being designated as an “established” mayoral strategy authority.*

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK  
LORD JAMIESON

49★ Clause 8, page 9, line 15, at end insert “, and may not be made without the consent of the Combined County Authority”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment requires the Secretary of State to obtain the consent of the Combined County Authority before making subordinate legislation under this section.*

## LORD LANSLEY

50 Clause 8, page 9, line 38, at end insert –

“(2A) The Secretary of State may designate a mayoral combined authority 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.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment and another to Clause 8 in the name of Lord Lansley give a basis for deciding whether a mayoral CCA or a mayoral combined authority proposals have substantive merit. They also provide for substantive criteria for being designated as an “established” mayoral strategy authority.*

## Clause 9

THE EARL OF CLANCARTY  
BARONESS PRASHAR  
BARONESS KEELEY

51 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  
BARONESS PRASHAR  
THE EARL OF CLANCARTY

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

***Member's explanatory statement***

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

LORD SHIPLEY  
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

53 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**

LORD BACH

54 Schedule 3, page 121, line 3, after “one” insert “or more”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment, and others in the name of Lord Bach, would enable commissioners to be responsible for more than one area of competence.*

LORD BACH

55 Schedule 3, page 121, line 4, leave out “area” and insert “areas”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment, and others in the name of Lord Bach, would enable commissioners to be responsible for more than one area of competence.*

BARONESS MCINTOSH OF PICKERING  
LORD CAMERON OF DILLINGTON

56 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.*

LORD BACH

57 Schedule 3, page 121, leave out lines 21 to 32

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment, and another in the name of Lord Bach, would enable more than one commissioner to be responsible for a single area of competence.*

LORD BACH

58 Schedule 3, page 128, line 26, after “one” insert “or more”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment, and others in the name of Lord Bach, would enable commissioners to be responsible for more than one area of competence.*

LORD BACH

59 Schedule 3, page 128, line 27, leave out “area” and insert “areas”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment, and others in the name of Lord Bach, would enable commissioners to be responsible for more than one area of competence.*

BARONESS MCINTOSH OF PICKERING  
LORD CAMERON OF DILLINGTON

60 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 BACH

61 Schedule 3, page 129, leave out lines 7 to 18

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment, and another in the name of Lord Bach, would enable more than one commissioner to be responsible for a single area of competence.*

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 10**

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK  
LORD JAMIESON

62★ Clause 10, page 12, line 34, at end insert—

“(3A) Any report produced under subsection (3) must be produced annually and published on the website of the Combined County Authority.”

**Clause 11**

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK  
LORD JAMIESON

63 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

64 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

65 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

66 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

67 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

68 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

69 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 is to probe why additional powers for the Mayor of London may be conferred by secondary legislation.*

**After Clause 15**

BARONESS PIDGEON  
LORD GASCOIGNE

70 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

71 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  
BARONESS HAYTER OF KENTISH TOWN  
LORD PITKEATHLEY OF CAMDEN TOWN

72 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  
BARONESS HAYTER OF KENTISH TOWN  
LORD PITKEATHLEY OF CAMDEN TOWN

73 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  
BARONESS HAYTER OF KENTISH TOWN  
LORD PITKEATHLEY OF CAMDEN TOWN

74 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).*

## BARONESS O'NEILL OF BEXLEY

75 After Clause 15, insert the following new Clause—

**“Review of the London governance model**

Within 12 months of the day on which this Act is passed, the Secretary of State must lay before Parliament a review of the effectiveness, accountability and outcomes of the Greater London Authority governance model, including lessons applicable to mayoral and combined authority arrangements established under this Act.”

**Clause 16**

## LORD GASCOIGNE

76 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

77 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

78 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

79 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

80 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

81 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

82 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

**83** 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

**84** 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

**85** 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

86 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

87 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

88 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

89 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

90 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

91 Clause 18, page 22, line 7, at 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

92 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

93 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

94 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

95 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  
BARONESS HAYTER OF KENTISH TOWN  
LORD PITKEATHLEY OF CAMDEN TOWN

**96** Before Schedule 4, insert the following new Schedule—

“SCHEDULE

Section (London Local Authorities Joint  
Committee)

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.*

## Schedule 4

LORD BASSAM OF BRIGHTON

**97** 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

98 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

99 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

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

LORD RAVENSDALE  
LORD HUNT OF KINGS HEATH  
BARONESS BARRAN  
THE EARL OF CLANCARTY

101 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.”

LORD WALLACE OF SALTAIRE

**102★** Leave out Clause 22, and insert the following new Clause –

**“Joint Strategic Development Plans and Joint Strategic Planning Boards**

- (1) The Secretary of State must issue guidance on the circumstances in which strategic authorities should consider the preparation of Joint Strategic Development Plans with neighbouring strategic authorities, particularly where strategic planning matters have cross-boundary effects.
- (2) Where –
  - (a) the area of two or more strategic authorities forms a significant part of a housing market, labour market, transport corridor, environmental system or infrastructure network that extends into each other’s boundaries, and
  - (b) the effective exercise of strategic planning functions would be materially enhanced by joint plan-making, the strategic authorities must broadly follow the aforementioned guidance and exercise those functions jointly with one or more neighbouring strategic authorities,
- (3) Joint exercise of functions under subsection (2) includes the preparation, publication, review and revision of a Joint Strategic Development Plan.
- (4) A Joint Strategic Development Plan must be overseen by a Joint Strategic Planning Board comprising representatives appointed by each participating strategic authority.
- (5) Where the Secretary of State considers that strategic authorities are failing, or are likely to fail, to comply with this section, the Secretary of State may –
  - (a) direct the strategic authorities to prepare a Joint Strategic Development Plan, and
  - (b) require participation in mediation or arbitration.
- (6) A direction under subsection (5) may be given before the submission of a draft plan.
- (7) The Secretary of State must publish reasons for any direction made under subsection (5).”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This clause provides for guidance, duties, and powers to ensure neighbouring Strategic Authorities undertake joint strategic planning where cross-boundary issues make this necessary.*

**After Clause 22**

BARONESS BENNETT OF MANOR CASTLE

**103** After Clause 22, insert the following new Clause—**“Duty on mayors to establish a citizens’ assembly**

(1) After section 17E of LURA 2023 (inserted by section 22 of this Act), insert—

**“17F Duty to establish a citizens’ assembly**

- (1) The mayor for an area of a CCA must establish a deliberative citizen’s assembly (“the assembly”) within six months beginning on the day of their election.
- (2) The purpose of the assembly is to inform strategic decision making on relevant local matters.
- (3) The assembly must comprise at least 40 persons from the area of the CCA, who are—
  - (a) selected by sortition or lottery, and
  - (b) representative of the population of the local authority area.
- (4) “Relevant local matters” are such matters as the mayor may specify with the agreement of the assembly.
- (5) The mayor must make arrangements for—
  - (a) the assembly to convene within one year beginning on the day on which the mayor is first elected, and at least once per year thereafter;
  - (b) the establishment of a regular consultation process with the assembly in addition to its convening under paragraph (2)(a);
- (6) The mayor must—
  - (a) take into account any recommendation made by the assembly either at a convened meeting, or in regular consultation;
  - (b) publish a response to any such recommendation within two months beginning on the day on which the mayor first receives the recommendation.”

(2) After section 103E of LDEDCA 2009 (inserted by section 22 of this Act), insert—

**“103F Duty to establish a citizens’ assembly**

- (1) The mayor for the area of a combined authority must establish a deliberative citizen’s assembly (“the assembly”) within six months beginning on the day of their election.
- (2) The purpose of the assembly is to inform strategic decision making on relevant local matters.
- (3) The assembly must comprise at least 40 persons from the area of the combined authority, who are—

- (a) selected by sortition of lottery, and
- (b) representative of the population of the local authority area.

(4) Relevant local matters” are such matters as the mayor may specify with the agreement of the assembly.

(5) The mayor must make arrangements for –

- (a) the assembly to convene within one year beginning on the day on which the mayor is first elected, and at least once per year thereafter;
- (b) the establishment of a regular consultation process with the assembly in addition to its convening under paragraph (2)(a).

(6) The mayor must –

- (a) take into account any recommendation made by the assembly either at a convened meeting, or in regular consultation
- (b) publish a response to any such recommendation within two months beginning on the day on which the mayor first receives the recommendation.”

(3) After section 40E of GLAA 1999 (inserted by section 22 of this Act) insert –

**“40F Duty to establish a citizens’ assembly**

- (1) The mayor must establish a deliberative citizen’s assembly (“the assembly”).
- (2) The purpose of the assembly is to inform strategic decision making on relevant local matters.
- (3) The assembly must comprise at least 40 persons from the area of the combined authority, who are –

  - (a) selected by sortition of lottery, and
  - (b) representative of the population of the local authority area.

- (4) Relevant local matters” are such matters as the mayor may specify with the agreement of the assembly.

(5) The mayor must make arrangements for –

  - (a) the assembly to convene within one year beginning on the day on which the mayor is first elected, and at least once per year thereafter;
  - (b) the establishment of a regular consultation process with the assembly in addition to its convening under paragraph (2)(a).

(6) The mayor must –

  - (a) take into account any recommendation made by the assembly either at a convened meeting, or in regular consultation;
  - (b) publish a response to any such recommendation within two months beginning on the day on which the mayor first receives the recommendation.”

(4) The Secretary of State may by regulations specify—

- (a) the period by which the Mayor of London must appoint a deliberative citizen's assembly, and
- (b) any necessary further provision relating to deliberative citizens' assemblies.

(5) Regulations under this section are subject to affirmative resolution procedure.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This new clause creates a duty on mayors to convene a citizens' assembly consisting of local people within the first year of their election and at least once annually after this, with an additional, non-legally binding duty to take account of the recommendations from the citizens' assembly, as well as defining the term “citizens' assembly”.*

BARONESS BENNETT OF MANOR CASTLE

**104** After Clause 22, insert the following new Clause—

**“Power of mayors to convene meetings with local public service providers and government**

(1) After section 17E of LURA 2023 (inserted by section 22 of this Act) insert—

**“17F Mayoral duty to convene meetings with local public service providers and government**

- (1) The mayor for the area of a CCA must convene regular meetings with—
  - (a) principal local authorities within their area,
  - (b) public service providers in their area, and
  - (c) town and parish councils within their area.

(2) Meeting under subsection (1) must occur at least every 12 months.”

(2) After section 103E of LDEDCA 2009 (inserted by section 22 of this Act) insert—

**“103F Mayoral duty to convene meetings with local public service providers and government**

- (1) The mayor for the area of a CCA must convene regular meetings with—
  - (a) principal local authorities within their area,
  - (b) public service providers in their area, and
  - (c) town and parish councils within their area.

(2) Meeting under subsection (1) must occur at least every 12 months.”

(3) After section 40E of GLAA 1999 (inserted by section 22 of this Act) insert—

**“40F Mayoral duty to convene meetings with local public service providers and government**

- (1) The mayor for the area of a CCA must convene regular meetings with—
  - (a) principal local authorities within their area,
  - (b) public service providers in their area, and

(c) town and parish councils within their area.

(2) Meeting under subsection (1) must occur at least every 12 months.””

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment would require mayors of combined authorities, mayors of CCAs, and the Mayor of London to regularly convene meetings with local government actors within their area.*

**Schedule 5**

LORD MOYLAN

**105** Schedule 5, page 139, leave out lines 16 to 20

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment probes the Government's definition of micromobility scooters.*

LORD MOYLAN

**106** Schedule 5, page 139, line 27, leave out “subsections (1)(c) and” and insert “subsection”

LORD MOYLAN

**107** Schedule 5, page 140, leave out lines 3 to 16

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment probes why the Secretary of State should have the power to make criminal law exemptions under this section.*

BARONESS PIDGEON

**108** 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

**109** 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.”

LORD MOYLAN

*As an amendment Amendment 109*

110 Leave out “sufficient”

LORD MOYLAN

111★ Schedule 5, page 141, line 16, at end insert—

**“22IA Disposal or destruction of micromobility vehicles**

- (1) Where a micromobility vehicle or associated equipment has been removed by or on behalf of a licensing authority following a contravention of section 22E, the licensing authority may dispose of or destroy it if—
  - (a) the person providing the vehicle cannot be identified
  - (b) the vehicle has not been claimed within a period of three days beginning with the day on which it was removed, or
  - (d) the vehicle or equipment poses a continuing risk to public safety.
- (2) Before disposing of or destroying a vehicle under this section, the licensing authority must where reasonably practicable, give notice to the person appearing to be the provider of the vehicle, if applicable.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*The purpose of amendment is to provide enforcement powers in relation to delinquent micromobility vehicles.*

BARONESS MCINTOSH OF PICKERING

112 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

113 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 licensing authority on matters relating to connecting micromobility vehicles with other forms of transport.”

### After Clause 26

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK  
LORD JAMIESON

114 After Clause 26, insert the following new Clause—

#### “Parking charges

In section 46A of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (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 27

LORD MOYLAN

*Lord Moylan gives notice of his intention to oppose the Question that Clause 27 stand part of the Bill.*

### Schedule 9

LORD MOYLAN

115 Schedule 9, page 157, leave out lines 22 to 25

#### *Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment probes why the mayoral CCA is required to have at least one road designated as a key route network road.*

BARONESS BENNETT OF MANOR CASTLE

116★ Schedule 9, page 160, line 6, at end insert “, which the Secretary of State must revise to include guidance on Key Route Networks, ensuring that this power cannot be used to undo Traffic Regulation Orders.””

#### *Member's explanatory statement*

*This is a probing amendment seeking a way to ensure that Traffic Management 2004 guidance will be revised to include guidance on Key Route Networks, while also ensuring these powers are not used to undo Traffic Regulation Orders made by local councils.*

LORD MOYLAN

117 Schedule 9, page 165, line 6 at end insert –

“8A In section 2(1)(a), after “area” insert “other than a key route network road.””

***Member's explanatory statement***

*The purpose of this amendment is to avoid replication.*

**Clause 29**

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK  
LORD JAMIESON

118 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

119 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 30**

LORD MOYLAN

120★ After Clause 30, insert the following new Clause –

**“Rail devolution: passenger rail services**

A mayoral combined authority has the power to provide, or secure the provision of, passenger rail services within, or within the surroundings of, its area.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment gives mayoral combined authorities the power to provide or secure the provision of passenger rail services within or within the surroundings of its area.*

**Schedule 10**

LORD MOYLAN

121 Schedule 10, page 170, line 36, leave out paragraph 14

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to keep travel concessionary agreements devolved to the lowest level of local Government.*

**After Clause 31**

LORD RAVENSDALE  
 LORD EVANS OF RAINOW  
 LORD BLUNKETT  
 LORD MCNALLY

**122** 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

**123** 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  
 LORD MCNALLY

**124** 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  
 LORD MCNALLY

**125** 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

**126** 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

**127** 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

**128** 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 BENNETT OF MANOR CASTLE

*As an amendment to Amendment 128*

**129** In subsection (1), after “employment” insert “, public and active transport provision”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This adds the duty to consider active and public transport provision in rural areas to other duties in this clause.*

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK  
LORD JAMIESON

**130** 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  
BARONESS BENNETT OF MANOR CASTLE

131 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.””

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment would require authorities with planning and spatial development functions to appoint a Chief Planner to lead this professional work.*

BARONESS MCINTOSH OF PICKERING

132 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

133 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.*

## Clause 39

THE EARL OF CLANCARTY  
LORD FREYBERG

134★ Clause 39, page 39, line 27, at end insert “and cultural ecosystem plans”

### After Clause 39

LORD RAVENSDALE  
LORD EVANS OF RAINOW  
LORD BLUNKETT  
LORD MCNALLY

135 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  
LORD MCNALLY

136 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  
LORD MCNALLY

137 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

138 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;”

#### *Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment would identify the projects needed to be included in a spatial development strategy to support growth.*

## LORD LANSLEY

139 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.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment would ensure that the infrastructure projects needed to support growth are identified.*

## BARONESS ROYALL OF BLAISDON

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

- “(d) take account of the statutory health duty and health inequalities strategy prepared by the strategic authority, and
- “(e) promote community wealth building, cooperatives, mutuals and the wider social economy as mechanisms to narrow health inequalities.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This ensures that local growth plans explicitly take account of the statutory health duty and the proposed Health Inequalities Strategy. It strengthens the link between economic growth and health improvement, complementing the government's intention that devolution should support inclusive growth and stronger communities, while maintaining local flexibility.*

## BARONESS MCINTOSH OF PICKERING

LORD FREYBERG

THE EARL OF CLANCARTY

141 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  
LORD MCNALLY

**142** 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  
LORD MCNALLY

**143** 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.”

LORD LANSLEY

**144★** Schedule 20, page 227, line 23, at end insert—

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

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment would ensure that the infrastructure projects needed to support growth are identified.*

LORD LANSLEY

**145★** Schedule 20, page 227, line 23, 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;”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment would identify the projects needed to be included in a spatial development strategy to support growth.*

BARONESS MCINTOSH OF PICKERING  
LORD FREYBERG  
THE EARL OF CLANCARTY

**146** 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.*

THE EARL OF CLANCARTY  
LORD FREYBERG

**147★** Schedule 20, page 230, line 9, at end insert—

*“Cultural ecosystem plans*

2 (1) A mayoral combined authority must prepare and publish a multi-year local cultural ecosystem plan developed in partnership with its constituent local authorities relating to their local cultural assets and workforce.

(2) A cultural ecosystem plan must—

- (a) complement local growth plans,
- (b) align with and improve existing local cultural and creative strategies, and
- (c) map existing cultural infrastructure including any relevant venues, studies, archives, heritage assets, and digital assets.”

**Clause 42**

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK  
LORD JAMIESON

**148** 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

149 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

150 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

151 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

152 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

153 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

154 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

155 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

156 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

157 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

**158** 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”

BARONESS BENNETT OF MANOR CASTLE

**159★** Clause 44, page 45, line 1, leave out from “of” to end of line 3 and insert “general state of health which is wholly or partly a result of differences in respect of general health determinants, including –

- (a) life expectancy,
- (b) healthy life expectancy,
- (c) disability, and
- (d) mental health and wellbeing.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment broadens the list of health determinants and health outcomes.*

BARONESS BOYCOTT

**160** Clause 44, page 45, line 5, after “housing,” insert “including access to affordable low carbon energy,”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment would include the above in the list of ‘general health determinants’ that authorities need to have regard to as a cause of health inequality in the area they govern.*

BARONESS BOYCOTT

**161** Clause 44, page 45, line 7, at end insert –

- “(ba) exposure to water pollution and resilience to flooding and heatwaves,”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment would include the above in the list of ‘general health determinants’ that authorities need to have regard to as a cause of health inequality in the area they govern.*

LORD RAVENSDALE  
LORD EVANS OF RAINOW  
LORD BLUNKETT  
LORD MCNALLY

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

## BARONESS BOYCOTT

163 Clause 44, page 45, line 11, at end insert “and the ability of communities to meaningfully shape local decisions that impact their health and wellbeing,”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment would include the ability of local people to shape authority decisions that have an impact on their health in the list of 'general health determinants' that authorities need to have regard to as a cause of health inequality in the area they govern.*

## BARONESS BOYCOTT

164 Clause 44, page 45, line 12, after “substances,” insert “the consumption of ultra processed foods,”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment, and the amendment at page 45 line 13 in Baroness Boycott's name would include ultra processed foods and diet in the list of 'general health determinants' that authorities need to have regard to as a cause of health inequality in the area they govern.*

## BARONESS BOYCOTT

165 Clause 44, page 45, line 13, after “lifestyle” insert “, including diet”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment, and the amendment at clause 44, page 45 line 12 in Baroness Boycott's name would include ultra processed foods and diet in the list of 'general health determinants' that authorities need to have regard to as a cause of health inequality in the area they govern.*

## BARONESS ROYALL OF BLAISDON

166★ Clause 44, page 45, line 25, at end insert –

**“107ZBA Health inequalities strategy**

- (1) Each strategic authority must prepare and publish a health inequalities strategy setting out how it will operationalise the duty under section 107ZB.
- (2) The strategy may be a standalone document or incorporated within another statutory or strategic plan of the authority.
- (3) The strategy must promote health improvement and the reduction of health inequalities between persons living in the strategic authority area.
- (4) In preparing the strategy, an authority must have regard to relevant national and local strategies relating to health improvement and the reduction of health inequalities.

- (5) The strategy must set locally appropriate targets and policies designed to meet them, set for the end of a 10-year period beginning on the day on which the strategy is published.
- (6) The targets may include, but need not be limited to targets relating to—
  - (a) healthy life expectancy,
  - (b) infant mortality rate, and
  - (c) poverty (including the child poverty rate).
- (7) The strategic authority must, once every five years, alongside its local growth plan, produce and make publicly available a report on progress against the strategy.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment provides a mechanism for implementation and accountability of the health duty (Clause 44) while maintaining local flexibility. It mirrors existing practice in London and ensures health and wellbeing are embedded across all strategic functions.*

BARONESS BENNETT OF MANOR CASTLE

**167★** Clause 44, page 45, line 39, leave out from “of” to end of line 41 and insert “general state of health which is wholly or partly a result of differences in respect of general health determinants, including—

- “(a) life expectancy,
- (b) healthy life expectancy,
- (c) disability, and
- (d) mental health and wellbeing.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment broadens the list of health determinants and health outcomes.*

**After Clause 44**

BARONESS WALMSLEY  
BARONESS BENNETT OF MANOR CASTLE

**168** 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.*

BARONESS BOYCOTT

**169** After Clause 44, insert the following new Clause—

**“Duty relating to allotments and community gardening spaces**

- (1) When fulfilling its health improvement and health inequalities duty under section 44, a combined authority must have regard to the need to increase the provision of allotments and community gardening spaces to improve the health of persons in the authority’s area and to reduce health inequalities.
- (2) In complying with this section, a combined authority must—
  - (a) publish an annual report detailing—
    - (i) the size of the allotment waiting list or lists in its area, and
    - (ii) the number of allotments owned and leased in its areas;
  - (b) take reasonable steps to ensure that across its area the number of persons waiting for allotments is no more than one half of the total number of allotments owned and leased;
  - (c) provide funding for the employment of community organisers and the provision of spaces to support community gardening across its area.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This new clause would further the health improvement function given to strategic authorities, by requiring them to increase the provision of allotments and community gardening space, which are known to boost public health.*

**Clause 45**

LORD GODDARD OF STOCKPORT

170 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 22**

LORD BACH

171 Schedule 22, page 235, line 2, after “Area,” insert “or for more than one Area,”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment seeks to ensure that, where a mayor may be responsible for more than one police force, they would have the flexibility to appoint a single deputy mayor or separate deputy mayors for each police force area.*

**Schedule 23**

BARONESS TAYLOR OF STEVENAGE

172 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

173 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—

“(iid) 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 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

174

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

175 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

176 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

177 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

178 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

**179** 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

**180** 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

**181** 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  
 BARONESS HAYTER OF KENTISH TOWN  
 LORD PITKEATHLEY OF CAMDEN TOWN

**182** 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  
BARONESS HAYTER OF KENTISH TOWN  
LORD PITKEATHLEY OF CAMDEN TOWN

183 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.*

**Clause 54**

BARONESS BAKEWELL OF HARDINGTON MANDEVILLE  
BARONESS PINNOCK

184★ Clause 54, page 58, line 4, leave out subsection (3).

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment removes the power of the Secretary of State to make regulations that could be used to amend any future Act of Parliament.*

**After Clause 56**

LORD GASCOIGNE

185 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

186 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 SALTAIRE

187 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  
LORD MCNALLY

188 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  
LORD MCNALLY

189 After Clause 56, insert the following new Clause—

**“Social mobility monitoring and reporting (No. 2)**

- (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  
LORD SHIPLEY

190 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

**191** 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.*

## BARONESS BENNETT OF MANOR CASTLE

192 After Clause 56, insert the following new Clause—

**“Duty to contribute to delivery of nature, clean air and climate targets**

- (1) When exercising their functions, a strategic authority, mayor, or local authority must contribute to—
  - (a) meeting the targets and carbon budgets set under Part 1 of the Climate Change Act 2008;
  - (b) meeting the targets and interim targets set under Part 1 of the Environment Act 2021;
  - (c) meeting the limit values set under Schedule 2 of the Air Quality Standards Regulations 2010;
  - (d) the delivery of the programme for adaptation to climate change under section 58 of the Climate Change Act 2008.
- (2) A strategic authority, mayor or local authority must not make any decision that is incompatible with the duty described in subsection (1).
- (3) Within one year beginning on the day on which this Act is passed, the Secretary of State must publish guidance describing the contribution that each strategic authority should make toward meeting the targets listed in subsection (1).
- (4) Guidance under subsection (3) must include clear metrics and measurable terms for strategic authorities, mayors and local authorities to meet.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This new clause requires strategic authorities, mayors, and local authorities to act in accordance with the statutory Climate Change Act and Environmental Act targets, carbon budgets, Air Quality Standards Regulations, and climate adaptation programme across their functions. The Secretary of State must publish guidance for defining authorities' contributions towards these objectives.*

## BARONESS BENNETT OF MANOR CASTLE

193 After Clause 56, insert the following new Clause—

**“Identification and monitoring of poverty**

- (1) In their delivery of functions under this Act, strategic authorities must collect and publish annually information on the levels of poverty within their authority.
- (2) Poverty data collected by strategic authorities under subsection (1) must include information regarding—
  - (a) age,
  - (b) gender,
  - (c) housing occupancy status,
  - (d) education, and
  - (e) ethnicity,

and may include other information regarded as relevant.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment aims to make transparent strategic authorities' effectiveness in reducing or eliminating poverty.*

BARONESS BENNETT OF MANOR CASTLE

**194** After Clause 56, insert the following new Clause—

**“Community wealth building**

- (1) A strategic authority has a duty to prepare and publish a Community Wealth Building Action Plan (“a plan”).
- (2) The purposes of a plan are to facilitate and support the—
  - (a) generation,
  - (b) circulation, and
  - (c) retention of wealth in local and regional economies.
- (3) A plan under this section must include provision about—
  - (a) the development of plural ownership models for the local economy, including co-operatives,
  - (b) the development of fair employment and labour markets,
  - (c) procurement practices that support local economic development, and
  - (d) promoting the socially productive use of land and property.
- (4) Strategic authorities may convene groups of anchor institutions (“anchor institution networks”) within the strategic authority area to support the development and implementation of a plan.
- (5) Strategic authorities may make arrangements to support anchor institution networks for the purpose of delivering a plan.
- (6) For the purposes of this section an “anchor institution” means any organisation within the strategic authority area that the strategic authority considers relevant for the delivery of a plan, including, but not limited to—
  - (a) employers;
  - (b) landowners or purchasers;
  - (c) community groups;
  - (d) groups with another relevant connection to the area.
- (7) Strategic authorities have a right to request powers to apply local levies to private equity in local public services.”

## LORD WALLACE OF SALTAIRE

195★ After Clause 56, insert the following new Clause—

**“English Local Government Council**

- (1) Within six months of the day on which this Act is passed, the Secretary of State must establish a national body called the English Local Government Council.
- (2) The general functions of the Council are to—
  - (a) to represent English local government in matters relating to devolution,
  - (b) to work with central government to create a framework for the further devolution of power to English local government (“the Devolution Framework”),
  - (c) to work with central government to agree the fair funding of local and strategic authorities, and
  - (d) to identify a representative or representatives of the English Local Government Council to participate in the Council of Nations and Regions.
- (3) The members of the Council are—
  - (a) a person appointed by constituent members of each strategic authority to represent the combined local authority in the proceedings of the Council, and
  - (b) the Mayor of London.
- (4) The Secretary of State must, by regulations, make provision about the operation of the Council.
- (5) The Regulations must, in particular, make provision about—
  - (a) staffing of the Council,
  - (b) proceedings of the Council,
  - (c) accounting and other record-keeping by the Council,
  - (d) publication of proceedings of the Council, and
  - (e) publication of guidance and advice by the Council.
- (6) In making regulations the Secretary of State must, in particular—
  - (a) provide for transitional arrangements to ensure that upper-tier authorities that are not part of a combined local authority are represented in the Council,
  - (b) allow for weighting of the voting power of strategic authorities to account for combined local authorities having different population sizes, and
  - (c) require the Mayor of London to consult with representatives of London authorities in performing functions as a member of the Council.
- (7) Members of the Council must pay annual fees to the Council, which must be set by the Secretary of State in regulations.
- (8) The Secretary of State must pay the costs of the establishment and maintenance of the Council, except in so far as those costs are met from annual fees.
- (9) Regulations made under this section—

- (a) are to be made by statutory instrument subject to affirmative resolution procedure, and
- (b) may include incidental, consequential or transitional provision.”

BARONESS ROYALL OF BLAISDON

**196★** After Clause 56, insert the following new Clause –

**“Duty of local public service partners to co-operate**

- (1) The Secretary of State must, by regulations made by statutory instrument, designate certain persons or bodies as “local public service partners” for the purposes of this section.
- (2) Those designated must include, at a minimum –
  - (a) NHS bodies,
  - (b) police and fire authorities, and
  - (c) any other public service providers exercising functions in the area of a strategic authority, in addition to the principal councils in that area.
- (3) A local public service partner operating (in whole or in part) in the area of a strategic authority must, in exercising its functions so far as they affect that area, co-operate with –
  - (a) the strategic authority, and
  - (b) the principal councils for that area.
- (4) The duty to co-operate under subsection (3) includes, in particular –
  - (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 to 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 and services that affect the area.
- (5) In performing the duty set out in subsection (3), a local public service partner must have regard to any guidance issued by the Secretary of State on the implementation of whole-area public service collaboration.
- (6) 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 new clause introduces a statutory duty on local public service partners, such as NHS bodies, police, and fire authorities, to co-operate 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.*

**Clause 57**

BARONESS BENNETT OF MANOR CASTLE

*Baroness Bennett of Manor Castle gives notice of her intention to oppose the Question that Clause 57 stand part of the Bill.*

***Member's explanatory statement***

*Removing this clause would prevent the government from forcibly rearranging local government.*

**Schedule 26**

BARONESS BENNETT OF MANOR CASTLE

*Baroness Bennett of Manor Castle gives notice of her intention to oppose the Question that Schedule 26 be the Twenty-Sixth Schedule to the Bill.*

**After Clause 58**

BARONESS PINNOCK

**197** 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

**198** 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

**199** 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

**200** 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

**201** 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

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

BARONESS BENNETT OF MANOR CASTLE

**203★** Schedule 27, page 296, line 37, after “economic” insert “, environmental”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment and another in my name to Schedule 27 seek to extend the community right to buy to include assets that further the environmental wellbeing of local communities, alongside economic and social benefits; provided that the land is not allocated otherwise for the local development plan.*

BARONESS BENNETT OF MANOR CASTLE

204★ Schedule 27, page 296, line 38, after “economic” insert “, environmental”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment and another in my name to Schedule 27 seek to extend the community right to buy to include assets that further the environmental wellbeing of local communities, alongside economic and social benefits; provided that the land is not allocated otherwise for the local development plan.*

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

205 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

206 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

207 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;”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment would secure the continuing role of Town and Parish Councils in providing effective neighbourhood governance.*

LORD LANSLEY

208 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.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment would secure that community empowerment is key to effective neighbourhood governance.*

BARONESS BENNETT OF MANOR CASTLE

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

“(e) requiring that local engagement activities under paragraph (d) meet minimum standards to ensure meaningful community participation, including –

- (i) the use of deliberative processes such as citizens' panels, assemblies, or community conversations,
- (ii) the active inclusion of communities most likely to be impacted by the policy measures, and communities underrepresented in policy making, and
- (iii) reporting, and publication of resulting reports, on how community input has influenced local plans and decisions;

(f) providing existing local democratic bodies, including parish and town councils, with appropriate powers, funding and infrastructure to support and facilitate such participation.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment requires regulations on neighbourhood governance to set minimum standards for involvement, including deliberative processes, inclusion of underrepresented groups and transparency.*

**After Clause 60**

LORD LANSLEY

**210** 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.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This new Clause will promote the creation of parish councils in unparished areas.*

**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 notice removes the provisions which make changes to the supplementary vote system.*

**After Clause 61**

LORD PACK  
BARONESS PINNOCK

**211** 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

**212** 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

213 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

214 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.*

## BARONESS BENNETT OF MANOR CASTLE

215 After Clause 61, insert the following new Clause—

**“Councillors: proportional representation vote system (No. 2)**

- (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 affirmative resolution procedure.
- (3) Such regulations must provide for a mechanism by which councils may democratically decide to opt for such a voting system, or a referendum of local residents may be held to direct such a voting system be deployed.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment aims to allow for the introduction of a system of proportional representation for the election of councillors.*

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK  
LORD JAMIESON

**216★** After Clause 61, insert the following new Clause—

**“Limitation on delay to elections resulting from local government reorganisation**

- (1) The Secretary of State may not make any order or regulations to delay the ordinary elections of councillors of any specified authority if—
  - (a) the order or regulations result from any change to local government organisation under or by virtue of this Act, and
  - (b) the effect of the order or regulations is to delay any such election by a period exceeding 53 weeks from the date on which it was originally scheduled to be held.
- (2) For the purposes of this section, “any order or regulations” includes—
  - (a) an order under section 87 (power to change years in which elections held) of the Local Government Act 2000;
  - (b) an order under sections 7 (implementation of proposals by order), 10 (implementation of recommendations by order of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007;
  - (c) any other delegated power exercisable by order or by regulations in relation to the scheduling of ordinary elections of councillors.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This new clause would prevent the Secretary of State from delaying by more than one year any local government election, if the delay results from local government reorganisation under this Act.*

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

**After Clause 62**

LORD BLUNKETT

**217** 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

**218** 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  
BARONESS BENNETT OF MANOR CASTLE**219** 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  
BARONESS BENNETT OF MANOR CASTLE

**220** 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.”

BARONESS GRIFFIN OF PRINCETHORPE

**221★** After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause—

**“Power to provide for an elected mayor to appoint a deputy mayor**

- (1) Section 107C of LDEDCA 2009 (deputy mayors) is amended as follows.
- (2) In subsection (1), for “one of the members of the authority to be the mayor's deputy” substitute “a deputy mayor”.

- (3) In subsection (3)(c), for “member of the combined authority” substitute “councillor of a constituent council of the authority”.
- (4) In subsection (4), for “member of the combined authority” substitute “councillor of a constituent council”.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This new clause would amend section 107C of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 so that a mayor is no longer restricted to appointing a deputy mayor from among the leaders of the constituent local authority members of the Combined Authority.*

**After Clause 63**

BARONESS MCINTOSH OF PICKERING  
THE EARL OF CLANCARTY  
LORD FREYBERG

**222** 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**

THE EARL OF CLANCARTY  
LORD FREYBERG

223 Schedule 29, page 296, line 37, after “economic” insert “, cultural”

THE EARL OF CLANCARTY  
LORD FREYBERG

224 Schedule 29, page 296, line 38, after “economic” insert “, cultural”

BARONESS FREEMAN OF STEVENTON  
LORD FREYBERG

225 Schedule 29, page 296, line 38, after “community” insert “or furthers the environmental wellbeing of the local communities, as long as the land is not allocated in the local development plan”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This clause aims to ensure that communities have the right to buy assets for their environmental benefits, not just their economic or social value to the community. For example, their value for health, wellbeing, and environmental services to the community.*

BARONESS BENNETT OF MANOR CASTLE

226★ Schedule 29, page 296, line 41, after “economic” insert “, environmental”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment and another in my name to Schedule 29 seek to extend the community right to buy to include assets that further the environmental wellbeing of local communities, alongside economic and social benefits; provided that the land is not allocated otherwise for the local development plan.*

THE EARL OF CLANCARTY  
LORD FREYBERG

227 Schedule 29, page 297, line 1, after “economic” insert “, cultural”

## BARONESS BENNETT OF MANOR CASTLE

228★ Schedule 29, page 297, line 1, after “economic” insert “, environmental”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment and another in my name to Schedule 29 seek to extend the community right to buy to include assets that further the environmental wellbeing of local communities, alongside economic and social benefits; provided that the land is not allocated otherwise for the local development plan.*

THE EARL OF CLANCARTY  
LORD FREYBERG

229 Schedule 29, page 297, line 9, after the first “economic” insert “, cultural”

THE EARL OF CLANCARTY  
LORD FREYBERG

230 Schedule 29, page 297, line 9, after the second “economic” insert “, cultural”

THE EARL OF CLANCARTY  
LORD FREYBERG

231 Schedule 29, page 297, line 14, after “economic” insert “, cultural”

THE EARL OF CLANCARTY  
LORD FREYBERG

232 Schedule 29, page 297, line 15, after “economic” insert “, cultural”

THE EARL OF CLANCARTY  
LORD FREYBERG

233 Schedule 29, page 298, line 8, at end insert—

““cultural interests” includes those represented by venues for the furthering of specialist skills, performance or exhibition including (but not limited to) music venues, recording studios, theatres, rehearsal spaces, visual artists’ studios and other creative spaces.”

*Member's explanatory statement*

*This amendment seeks to establish the status of “cultural interests” as being on a par with economic or social interests; and confirms the nature of these interests, citing examples of relevant assets.*

THE EARL OF CLANCARTY  
LORD FREYBERG

234 Schedule 29, page 298, leave out line 10

BARONESS HOEY

235 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

236 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  
BARONESS EATON

237 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 issued 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

238 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

**239** 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.*

## LORD BEST

**240** After Clause 73, insert the following new Clause—

**“Duty to optimise the use of public land**

- (1) It is the duty of every designated public body to secure the optimal use of land and legal estates owned by them, to promote or improve the economic, social and environmental circumstances of their areas (“the optimal use duty”).
- (2) The optimal use duty also applies to—
  - (a) the disposal of land, whether under the provisions listed in subsection (3),
  - (b) any conditions relating to the disposal of any land and legal estates for any purpose and over any timescale, and
  - (c) any requirement to secure the best consideration reasonably obtainable, as part of the disposal of land under the provisions listed in subsections (3)(a) to (c).
- (3) The provisions referred to in subsection (2) are—

- (a) section 123 of the Local Government Act 1972 (disposal of land by principal councils),
- (b) section 209 of the Localism Act 2011 (restrictions on disposal of land), and
- (c) section 10 of the Housing and Regeneration Act 2008 (restrictions on disposal of land),
- (d) section 17 of the New Towns Act 1981 (conditions as to disposal), and
- (e) section 146 of the Local Government, Planning and Land Act 1980 (disposal by corporations).

(4) All local authorities must prepare and publish a land use management plan, in a manner to be determined by the Secretary of State, which demonstrates how existing and proposed land uses have been optimised to achieve the economic, social and environmental objectives in subsection (1).

(5) In this section—

“designated public bodies” means—

- (a) local authorities in England, including strategic authorities defined in Part 1 of this Act;
- (b) mayoral development corporations established by section 198 of the Localism Act 2011;
- (c) new town development corporations established by section 3 of the New Towns Act 1981;
- (d) Urban Development Corporations established by section 135 of the Local Government, Planning and Land Act 1980, including locally-led urban development corporations established by section 171 of the Levelling Up and Regeneration Act 2023;

“optimal use” means the most effective use of land and legal estates to contribute to—

- (a) the objectives and requirements of the relevant local and neighbourhood development plans and any national development management policies issued under sections 86 and 87 of the Levelling Up & Regeneration Act 2023 (powers to require data);
- (b) the environmental principles set out in sections 17 to 19 of the Environment Act 2021 (policy statement on environmental principles) and any direction under Part 6 of the Levelling Up & Regeneration Act 2023 (environmental outcomes reports) relating to environmental outcomes affecting the land and legal estates;
- (c) any other objectives and requirements determined by the Secretary of State.

(6) Schedule (*Duty to optimise the use of public land*) makes amendments in connection with a duty of public bodies to optimise the use of public land.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment, connected with another in the name of Lord Best, seeks to place a statutory duty on English local authorities and all forms of development corporation, to secure the optimal uses of their land, including when disposing of it, to achieve public policy objectives and requirements.*

## LORD RAVENSDALE

**241★** After Clause 73, insert the following new Clause—

**“Report on Local Area Energy Plans**

The Secretary of State must, within 18 months of the day on which this Act is passed, publish a report setting out—

- (a) the number of strategic, combined, or local authorities that have—
  - (i) developed, or
  - (ii) implemented
a Local Area Energy Plan (LAEП);
- (b) barriers to progress that authorities have had in the introduction of LAEPs;
- (c) options for introducing, within one year of publication of the report, a statutory requirement for LAEPs;
- (d) proposals for funding, technical support, training, and capacity building initiatives to assist local authorities in preparing and implementing LAEPs;
- (e) clear evaluation criteria and success metrics for the programme and any pilots carried out.”

**After Schedule 30**

## LORD BEST

**242** After Schedule 30, insert the following new Schedule—

**“SCHEDULE**

**DUTY TO OPTIMISE THE USE OF PUBLIC LAND**

1 In section 123 of the Local Government Act 1972 (disposal of land by principal councils), after subsection (2B) insert—

“(2C) In relation to the disposal of land and legal estates by principal councils in England, the duty in subsection (1) of section (*Duty to optimise the use of public land*) of the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Act 2026 is fulfilled by obtaining the best consideration that can reasonably be obtained for an existing or proposed land use that secures the optimal use of land within the meaning of subsection (5) of that section over any timescale.

(2D) In a disposal of land under this section a council must impose any covenant, restriction or charge necessary to secure the optimal use of the disposed land, and the Secretary of State in giving any consent under this section may require the same.”

2 In section 209 of the Localism Act 2011 (restrictions on disposal of land), after subsection (4) insert—

“(5) In relation to the disposal of land and legal estates by mayoral development corporations, the duty in subsection (1) of section

*(Duty to optimise the use of public land)* of the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Act 2026 is fulfilled by obtaining the best consideration that can reasonably be obtained for an existing or proposed land use that secures the optimal use of land within the meaning of subsection (5) of that section.

(6) In a disposal of land under this section a mayoral development corporation must impose any covenant, restriction or charge necessary to secure the optimal use of the disposed land, and a mayor in giving any consent under this section may require the same.”

3 In section 17 of the New Towns Act 1981 (conditions as to disposal), after subsection (4) insert—

“(5) In relation to the disposal of land and legal estates by a new town development corporation, the duty in subsection (1) of section *(Duty to optimise the use of public land)* of the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Act 2026 is fulfilled by a disposal that will ensure an existing or proposed land use that secures the optimal use of public land within the meaning of subsection (5) of that section.

(6) In a disposal of land under this section a new town development corporation must impose a covenant, restriction or charge necessary to secure the optimal use of the disposed land.”

4 In section 146 of the Local Government, Planning and Land Act 1980 (disposal by corporation), after subsection (5) insert—

“(5A) In relation to the disposal of land and legal estates by an urban development corporation, the duty in subsection (1) of section *(Duty to optimise the use of public land)* of the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Act 2026 is fulfilled by a sale that will ensure an existing or proposed land use that secures the optimal use of land within the meaning of subsection (5) of that section.

(5B) In a disposal of land under this section an urban development corporation must impose a covenant, restriction or charge necessary to secure the optimal use of the disposed land.””

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment, connected with another in the name of Lord Best, seeks to place a statutory duty on English local authorities and all forms of development corporation, to secure the optimal uses of their land, including when disposing of it, to achieve public policy objectives and requirements.*

**Clause 74**

LORD SHIPLEY

**243** 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 probing to seek to understand why a Local Audit Office is necessary.*

**Clause 75**BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK  
LORD JAMIESON**244** 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**245** 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**246** 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

**247** 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

**248** 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

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

LORD SHIPLEY

250 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 85**

BARONESS 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

251 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  
LORD LANSLEY

**252** 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

**253** 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

**254** 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

**255** 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

256

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 86

LORD WALLACE OF SALTAIRE

257 Clause 86, page 83, line 7, at end insert –

““community” means an urban or rural area with a sense of shared identity, of variable size;”

LORD WALLACE OF SALTAIRE

258 Clause 86, page 83, line 26, at end insert –

““local” means an area suitable for shared government, linked by easy communication among its constituent communities;”

LORD WALLACE OF SALTAIRE

259 Clause 86, page 83, line 42, at end insert –

““neighbourhood” means a district within a town or city, limited in size by the ability of most of its inhabitants to walk from one extent to another;”

### Clause 89

BARONESS MCINTOSH OF PICKERING  
LORD CAMERON OF DILLINGTON

260 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

**261** 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

**262** 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.*

BARONESS SCOTT OF BYBROOK  
LORD JAMIESON

**263★** Clause 92, page 88, line 21 at end insert –

- “(6A) Section 10 does not come into force until guidance under subsections 10(2) and 10(4) has been published by the Secretary of State and laid before Parliament.”

LORD PACK  
LORD NORTON OF LOUTH

**264** 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

**265** 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

**266** 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

**267** 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

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MARSHALLED  
LIST OF AMENDMENTS  
TO BE MOVED  
IN GRAND COMMITTEE

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*16 January 2026*

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PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY OF THE HOUSE OF LORDS