



HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT
OUTREACH SERVICE



Getting your voice heard in Parliament

UK Advisory Forum on Ageing
November 2013

Overview

This session will cover:

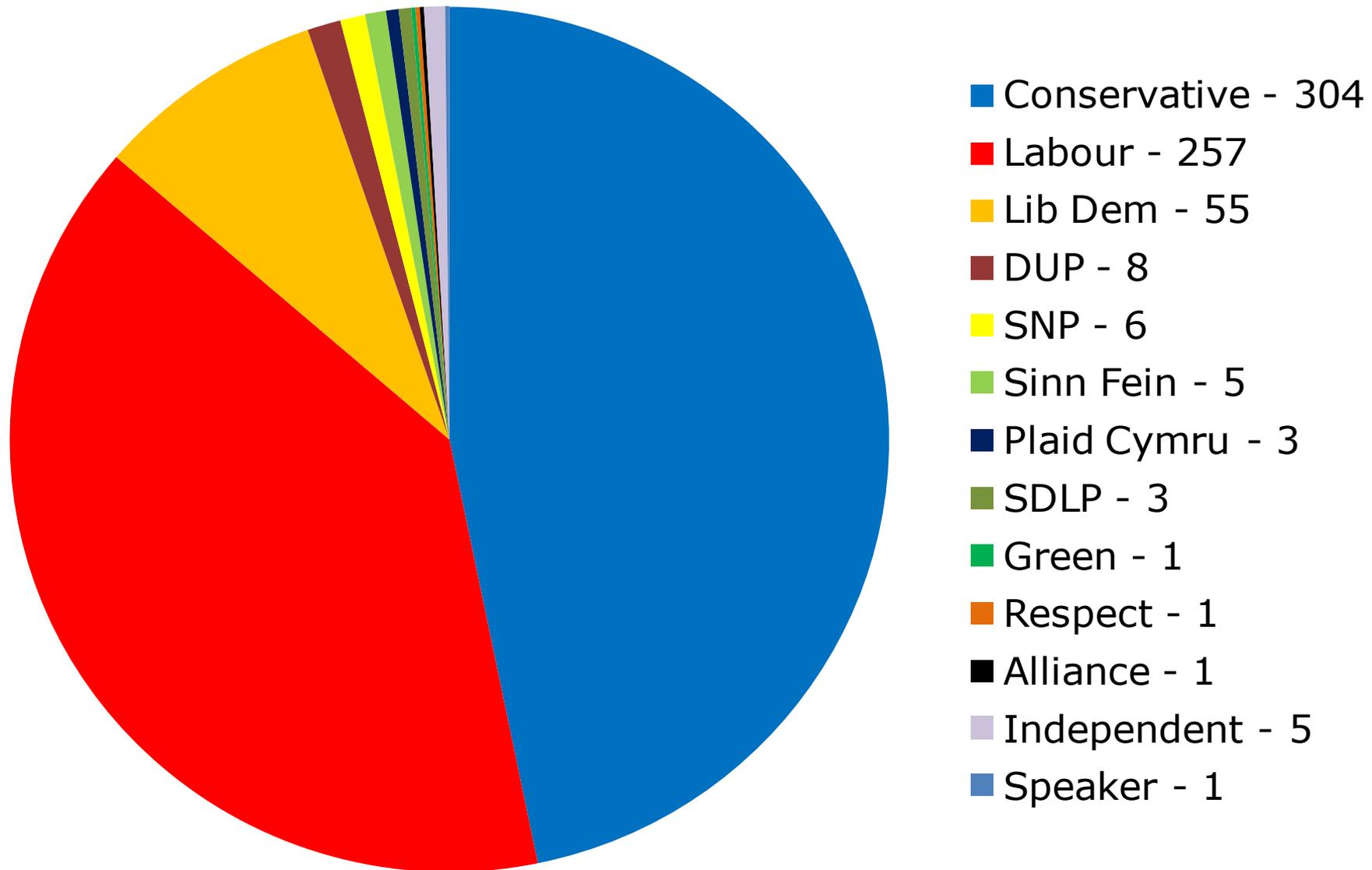
- ▶ Contacting MPs and Members of the House of Lords
 - ▶ What MPs and Lords can do in Parliament: questions, debates, Select committees
 - ▶ Engaging with Bills
 - ▶ All-party parliamentary groups
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Parliamentary Outreach

- ▶ A service from the Houses of Parliament
- ▶ Politically neutral
- ▶ Aim is to increase knowledge and engagement with work and processes of Parliament
- ▶ **Not** an alternative to MPs



State of the Parties 2013



Where to start: your MP

- ▶ Your MP's contact details will be available via the Parliament website: www.parliament.uk
- ▶ You can also find them by calling the House of Commons Information Office on 020 7219 4272
- ▶ Or at your town hall or local library
- ▶ Many MPs will have a contact address and number in the constituency
- ▶ Some MPs use Twitter – you can follow them

Mark Field, MP for
Cities of London and
Westminster



Where to start: your MP



Kerry McCarthy MP
@KerryMP FOLLOWS YOU

Labour MP for Bristol East + Shadow Foreign Minister. Blog - kerrymccarthy.wordpress.com. Casework/ diary - [@parliament.uk](http://kerry.mccarthy.mp)
Bristol/ London. · kerrymccarthymp.org

40,616 <small>TWEETS</small>	4,000 <small>FOLLOWING</small>	18,840 <small>FOLLOWERS</small>	 Following
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Tweets

 **Chitra Nagarajan** @chitranagarajan 12m
Petition @Pontifex so Beatriz can have a life saving abortion. She will die if carries to term & Sup Ct ruled no change.org/petitions/pope...
 Retweeted by Kerry McCarthy MP
[View summary](#)

 **Kerry McCarthy MP** @KerryMP 6m
El Salvador Supreme Court denies critically ill woman lifesaving abortion owl.li/lxCvy I've written to ambassador about this 1/2
Expand

The House of Lords

- ▶ The second Chamber, also known as the revising House
- ▶ No party, or combination of parties has an overall majority in the House of Lords
- ▶ There are also 183 Cross-Benchers in the Lords, who are independent of party
- ▶ There are 808 members of whom 755 are eligible:
 - 641 are Life Peers
 - 89 are Hereditary Peers
 - 25 are C of E Bishops



The House of Lords

- ▶ Members of the House of Lords do not have constituencies, so in theory, you can contact any member
- ▶ You will want to identify Members of the Lords who will support your campaign
- ▶ Biographies of all Members of the Lords are available at www.parliament.uk
- ▶ Hansard – the official report of proceedings in the Lords – is a good place to look for examples of Peers' interests and causes

Parliamentary questions

- All Government departments can be questioned on their work
- In writing and orally
- In Commons and Lords
- Must relate to running of Government department
- Cannot be on party or private issues, *sub-judice*, or on the monarchy
- Must be used to **request information** or **press for action**



Parliamentary debates

- ▶ Adjournment debates (HoC)
- ▶ Questions for Short Debate (HoL)
- ▶ Back-Bench business debates (HoC)
- ▶ Opposition day debates

Allows MPs and Members of the HoL to:

- ▶ Raise constituency issues or matters of regional, national or international significance
- ▶ Get the issue to the attention of a relevant minister



Select Committees

- ▶ Set up to scrutinise specific areas of work and government departments
- ▶ Work carried out through public inquiries
- ▶ Groups and individuals submit evidence to inquiries
- ▶ Inquiry report created and usually passed to relevant government department



Select Committees

- ▶ You can contact the staff of Select Committees directly
 - ▶ You can ask them about forthcoming or planned inquiries
 - ▶ You can suggest areas that the Committee might like to look into
 - ▶ If an inquiry is taking place, you can contact Committee staff for advice on preparing written evidence
 - ▶ If you are called to give oral evidence, you can contact Committee staff for help to prepare
 - ▶ Select Committees can do follow-up inquiries after the Government have responded to their reports
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Select Committees

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Commons Select Committee

Health Committee



Management of long-term conditions; evidence session

Public Health England: written submissions invited

Monitor: written submissions invited

Watch/listen



Watch Secretary of State, Rt Hon Jeremy Hunt MP, give evidence to the Health Committee

What's on

Current inquiries

- 2013 accountability hearing with Monitor
- Public Health England
- Pre-appointment hearing for the Chair of Monitor
- Public expenditure on health and social care

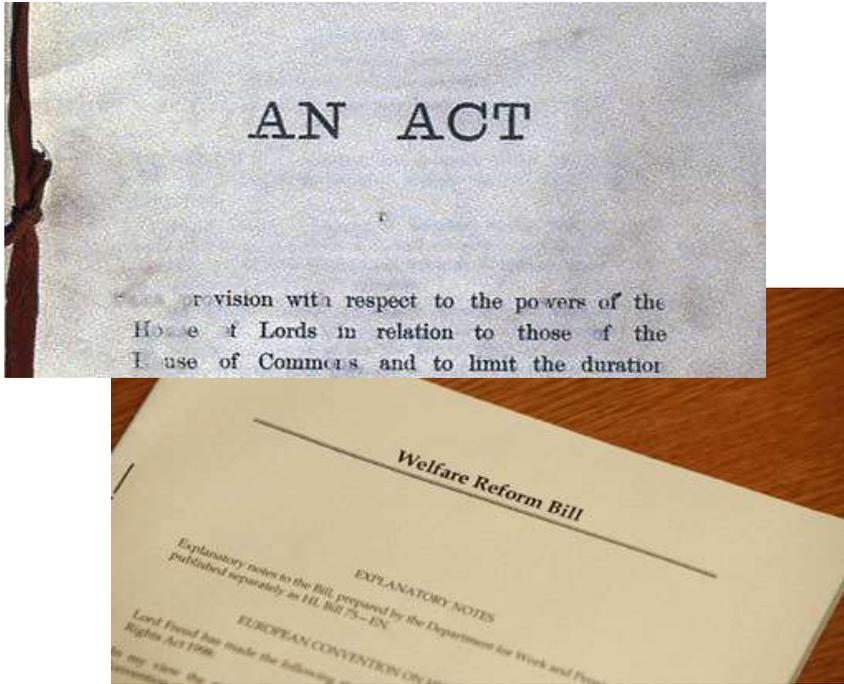
Latest publications

- Post-legislative scrutiny of the Mental Health Act 2007 - Government Response (pdf)
- 4th Report - Appointment of the Chair of Monitor | PDF version

Next meeting(s)

29 October 2013 | 2:30 PM
Management of long-term conditions

[View details](#)



Draft Bills and legislation

Legislation – before arrival in Parliament

- ▶ Green Papers: general discussion documents produced when Government is considering a new law
- ▶ White Papers: produced by the Government with details of future policy on a particular subject –very close to what will be in a Bill
- ▶ They have no legal force
- ▶ Consultations may be carried out on both
- ▶ Parliament will conduct pre-legislative scrutiny of any draft Bill



Draft Bills

- ▶ The Government publishes some Bills in draft form before they are introduced formally in Parliament
- ▶ They receive pre-legislative scrutiny in Parliament
- ▶ The draft Bill will be considered either by an existing Select Committee or a specially convened ad hoc Committee



Legislation

- ▶ All legislation proposed by the Government must be scrutinised by both Houses of Parliament
- ▶ Each Bill goes through the same stages in each House - First Reading, Second Reading, Committee, Report, Third Reading – before it reaches Royal Assent
- ▶ Members can suggest changes (“amendments”) at particular stages
- ▶ Much of the most careful scrutiny goes on in Committee, particularly in the House of Lords

Private Members' Bills

- ▶ MPs and Lords can introduce their own Bills
 - ▶ In the Commons, MPs can bring in a Bill through the 10-minute rule
 - ▶ MPs can also enter the Private Members Bill ballot every session
 - ▶ If they are in the first 20 or so names, their Bill will be given debating time on a sitting Friday
 - ▶ Members of both Houses can also simply present new Bills, but they are not guaranteed any debating time
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- ↶ Bills & Legislation
- ↶ Bills before Parliament 2013-14
- ↶ Public Bills
- ↓ **Care Bill [HL] 2013-14**

Bill stages

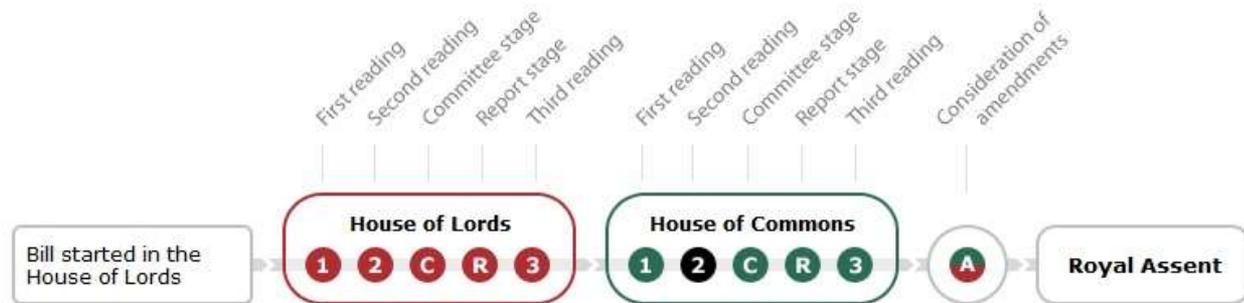
Bill documents

Care Bill [HL] 2013-14

Type of Bill: Government Bill

Sponsors: Earl Howe
Department of Health
Mr Jeremy Hunt
Department of Health

Progress of the Bill



Last event

1 1st reading: House of Commons (no debate) | 30.10.2013

Next event

2 2nd reading: House of Commons | Date to be announced

■ [All previous stages of the Care Bill \[HL\] 2013-14](#)

Latest Bill

House	Bill	Date
©	Bill 123 2013-2014, as brought from the Lords PDF version, 638KB	31.10.2013

■ [All Bill documents](#)

Stay up to date

Keep up to date with the progress of Bills going through Parliament. Sign up for email alerts or use our RSS feeds.

-  [RSS feed for this Bill](#)
-  [Receive email updates for this Bill](#)

All-party parliamentary groups

You are here: [Parliament home page](#) > [Parliamentary business](#) > [Publications and Records](#) > [House of Commons Publications](#) > [Register of All-Party Groups](#)

Register Of All-Party Groups [as at 24 July 2013]

Ageing and Older People

TITLE	All-Party Parliamentary Group for Ageing and Older People		
PURPOSE	To focus on current political and legislative issues before Parliament which affect people in later life.		
OFFICERS			
	Title	Name	Party
	Co-Chairs	Penny Mordaunt Baroness Greengross Greg Mulholland	Con CB LD
	Secretary	Stephen Lloyd	LD
TWENTY QUALIFYING MEMBERS			
	Government Party	Main Opposition Party	Other
1	Penny Mordaunt - Con	Sheila Gilmore	Baroness Greengross
2	Nigel Evans - Con	Lord Lipsey	Nigel Dodds
3	Tim Farron - LD	David Anderson	
4	Mike Freer - Con	Dame Anne Begg	
5	Chris Skidmore - Con	Jim Dobbin	
6	Baroness Barker - LD	Julie Hilling	
7	Stephen Lloyd - LD	Stephen Pound	
8	Eleanor Laing - Con	Richard Burden	
9	Greg Mulholland - LD		
10	Mark Spencer - Con		
CONTACT DETAILS FOR CORRESPONDENCE AND GENERAL ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE GROUP			
Ms Penny Mordaunt MP, House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA. Tel: 020 7219 7129 Group's website.			
BENEFITS RECEIVED BY GROUP FROM SOURCES OUTSIDE PARLIAMENT			
Age UK (a charity) acts as the group's secretariat.			

Questions?



Where can I get information?

- ▶ www.parliament.uk
 - ▶ 020 7219 4272 – Commons information
 - ▶ 020 7219 3107 – Lords information
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