



THE PUBLIC WHIP

Non-partisan information for voters in the Parliamentary by-election

The by-election on November 6th is for the position of MP who casts votes in your name on issues of law and national policy that affect millions of people outside your area. The candidates, however, are campaigning on local government issues like CCTVs, night buses and roundabouts.

www.publicwhip.org.uk/by-election

Recent issues brought to Parliament

The following proposed laws among thousands have been voted on in Parliament recently. Ask the candidates how they would have voted had they been in Parliament.

A law to establish a remote rural fuel discount scheme administered by the Scottish Executive - rejected on 2nd July 2008

A law to create a renewable energy tariff to pay household consumers for electricity generated from solar power and put back into the national grid - rejected on 30th April 2008

A motion to force the government to hold an independent inquiry into events leading up to the March 2003 invasion of Iraq and its aftermath - rejected on 25th March 2008

A law to force the Government to state the impact of any change in income tax (such as 10p tax) according to each income group when it is proposed - rejected on 25th June 2007





A law to exempt MPs from having to declare their expenses under the Freedom of Information Act - passed on 8th May 2007

A motion to declare that there was a public emergency threatening the life of the nation for the next five years - passed on 21st November 2001

Which policies do the parliamentary parties support and oppose?

For further information on speeches and debates in the Houses of Parliament since 2001 by all MPs, visit TheyWorkForYou.com.

The table below shows the main parties' stance on important national legislation. Circle the stances you agree with and cross the ones you disagree with. The party with the most circles and least crosses most closely represents your opinion (for this selection of issues) in the way they have voted.

Policy	 Labour	 Conservatives	 Liberal Democrats	 SNP
Replace Trident with a new submarine-launched nuclear weapons system	for	FOR	AGAINST	AGAINST
The 2003 invasion of Iraq for weapons of mass destruction	for	FOR	AGAINST	AGAINST
Charging student top-up fees in (now abolished in Scotland)	for	AGAINST	AGAINST	AGAINST
Compulsory biometric identity cards	FOR	AGAINST	AGAINST	AGAINST
To hold a referendum on the new EU treaty	AGAINST	FOR	for	FOR
A new Planning Bill to streamline construction of infrastructure and reduce government accountability	for	AGAINST	AGAINST	no vote
Reducing the time limit for termination of pregnancy	against	mixed	against	mixed
The Government's post-office 'modernisation' policy	FOR	AGAINST	AGAINST	AGAINST
Criminalising of protest outside Parliament without permission	FOR	mixed	AGAINST	AGAINST

The devil is in the detail