

## Leadbeater Bill in the House of Lords

The Leadbeater Bill has now been passed to the House of Lords where it will have a second reading in September followed by its committee stage offering detailed scrutiny of the bill. Please continue to pray for this bill as well as the bill in Scotland.

At this stage, it is really important that members of the Lords hear the concerns of health professionals about this bill.

### **How can I write?**

You can write to any member of the Lords ([contact information is available on-line](#)) and can write letters to as many as you are able to. As many Lords don't have a staff team to monitor their email inbox it is most effective to send the same letter both attached to an email and printed and posted - you can explain in the letter that you are sending the letter by both routes.

### **Who should I write to?**

If you have any link to a member of the Lords, please write to them - perhaps you met them professionally (or personally), perhaps they attended the same university as you or you have a [geographical link](#) or mutual interest or political affiliation. [A bit of on-line searching](#) may help you find links you hadn't previously considered. A link is not essential, however, and if you look for previous emails from Our Duty of Care they will have assigned you three suggested peers to contact (if you are not signed up you can do so [here](#) or [contact the CNK office directly to ask for three peers to contact](#)).

### **What should I say?**

Explain that you are a concerned professional, outline [one or two of your biggest concerns](#) and ask if they would be willing to meet with you and/or other professionals with concerns about the bill. If you're not sure where to start, you could mention the concerns expressed by professional bodies ([RCPsych](#), [BGS](#), [APM](#) etc) or echo recent concerns from [this BMJ paper](#), for example.

If a peer is willing to take a meeting I can help link you to other CMF members who are well versed in the concerns about this bill who could join you/arrange a meeting. If you receive any feedback, [please let Susan Marriott \(CMF Head of Public Policy\) know](#).

## **Brief example letter -**

**[Lord/Lady Title and Name]**

House of Lords

London

SW1A 0PW

Dear [Lord/Lady Title and Surname],

### **Re: The Leadbeater Bill – Request for Consideration of Health Professional Concerns**

I am writing to you as a [your profession – e.g., consultant psychiatrist, GP, palliative care doctor, nurse, etc.] with deep concerns regarding the Leadbeater Bill, which is now due for its second reading in the House of Lords this September. [If you have a particular link or reason for selecting this peer include this here.]

As someone working directly with vulnerable patients, I fear that this bill - despite perhaps good intentions - could pose significant risks to the safety and dignity of those nearing the end of life. I echo the concerns raised by professional bodies such as the Royal College of Psychiatrists, the British Geriatrics Society, and the Association for Palliative Medicine, all of which have cautioned against the potential implications of this bill.

In particular, I am most concerned about:

- **Select one**
- **or two key concerns and state them briefly.**

I would be grateful if you would consider these concerns as the bill progresses through the Lords. Would you be willing to meet with me and/or other healthcare professionals to discuss our concerns about this bill further? I would be pleased to help facilitate a meeting and can connect you with colleagues who are well informed on this issue.

Please forgive me for contacting you both by post and email – I wanted to ensure this message reaches you and was unsure of your preferred route. Thank you for your time and for the vital role you play in scrutinising legislation with care and thoughtfulness.

Yours sincerely,

**[Your Full Name]**

**[Full contact details including e-mail for reply]**

**[Professional Role/Qualifications]**