

How to defeat the Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill: A guide to lobbying your MP in person

JULY 2026

In April 2026, the Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill, originally introduced by Kim Leadbeater MP, fell at the end of the Parliamentary session, having failed to complete its passage through Parliament. After winning second place in the private members ballot, Lauren Edwards, the Labour MP for Rochester and Strood, has reintroduced the same Bill into the House of Commons.

By introducing the same Bill, it appears that the assisted suicide lobby is intending to invoke the Parliament Acts, whereby if the House of Lords rejects the same Bill in two consecutive parliamentary sessions, it can be passed without their consent.

Second Reading, where MPs first debate and vote on the Bill, is scheduled for **11 September 2026**. We need to defeat the Bill then and put it to bed for good. We have a small window of time to persuade MPs to reject the Bill. Much of this time falls over the summer recess, so it is more vital than ever that MPs are lobbied in their constituencies. This briefing gives guidance on how to lobby your MP in person on this issue.

WHY LOBBY MPs IN PERSON?

We only have a short time to defeat this bill. We need to do all we can to persuade MPs to vote it down. Going to see your MP in person is the most impactful campaign action you can take. It is a guaranteed way of engaging directly with your MP, and personal engagement is always the most powerful form of communication. We know that politicians are often convinced to back a particular campaign through being moved by a constituent's story. Our side of the debate needs to be doing this more.

WHO IS MY MP?

Firstly, identify who your MP is. (On this issue, it is your MP in Westminster you need to contact, even if you have devolved representatives in Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland).

You can find out who your MP is on the parliamentary website (www.parliament.uk/mps-lords-and-offices/mps) or via the SPUC website's MP tool.

Please only contact your own constituency MP. There is a strict parliamentary protocol where MPs will only take note of and reply to personal communications from their own constituents, so please do not waste your efforts contacting MPs other than your own.



HOW DO I ARRANGE A MEETING WITH MY MP?

Most MPs have their own websites where you can find contact information and details on how they engage with constituents. If you want to write to your MP to request a meeting, the address is:

[Name of your MP], House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA.

Their email address will be available on the parliamentary website and the MP's own website.

You can also call the House of Commons switchboard on 020 7219 3000 and ask to speak to your MP. You might be put through to your MP, but it will more likely be a member of staff or their answering machine.

The best place to meet your MP is either at their constituency office or at one of their advice surgeries. Most MPs hold at least one of these a month and are often in places such as local libraries.

SHOULD I GO WITH A GROUP TO MEET MY MP?

If possible, go to meet your MP with other members of your SPUC branch or other pro-life supporters (get in touch with us if you need help finding someone to go with). Ask your MP how many people can be accommodated at the meeting. Be respectful of any security concerns they may have over seeing large groups.

HOW DO I PREPARE FOR MY MEETING?

Plan what points you want to make before your meeting. If you are going in a group, it is wise to plan who is going to make which points. You can use the accompanying briefing on this Bill to help you. Check the SPUC website for recent news stories.

WHAT SHOULD I TALK ABOUT IN THE MEETING?

At this stage, it is best to raise specific concerns about this particular Bill, not just general arguments against assisted suicide. Our briefings can help you, but it is most important that MPs hear YOUR concerns. What most worries you about this Bill? Who in your life do you think would be endangered by it? Use your own stories and experiences. These could include personal experience of illness, depression or disability, caring for a dying person, or someone with disabilities, or professional experience, such as a carer.

KEY TALKING POINTS ON THIS BILL

Use our full briefings for an overview of the Bill, but here's some key messages to communicate to your MP.

- **Not this Bill, not now.** Regardless of the MP's view on assisted suicide as an issue, this particular Bill is dangerous, and should not be rushed through, especially given the crisis in the NHS and the poorly funded state of palliative care
- **This Bill is not safe.** Experts from the relevant Royal Colleges, professional bodies, the Equality and Human Rights Commission, mental health and domestic abuse charities have heavily criticised this Bill
- **A vote now is a vote for an unchanged Bill.** None of the amendments proposed in the House of Lords in the last session will be included in the reintroduced Bill. If, as has been strongly steered, the sponsors intend to use the Parliament Acts, it will not be possible for MPs to make any amendments. Assisted suicide campaigners want MPs to demand that the Parliament Acts are used on a Private Member's Bill for the first time ever: to insist an identically flawed and widely criticised bill should become law using powers designed for, and only ever used by, an elected government.

In summary, MPs are being asked to support a Bill which is nowhere near ready to be made law, against the warnings of the Royal Colleges, the Equality and Human Rights Commission, the Delegated Powers Committee, and the former Chief Executive of NHS England.

MY MP VOTED FOR THE BILL LAST TIME, IS IT WORTH LOBBYING THEM?

Absolutely! In order to defeat this Bill we need (at least 12) MPs who voted in favour of the Bill last time to change their votes. This is very possible, for several reasons:

- The political landscape has changed
- The Bill emerged from its scrutiny in the last session fatally damaged
- The tide is turning on assisted suicide generally – the defeat of a similar bill in Scotland is highly significant
- Many MPs are uncomfortable with the proposal to force the Bill into law using the Parliament Acts

It is especially vital that you lobby your MP if they voted for the Bill last time – it could make a crucial difference.

...AND SHOULD I BOTHER IF THEY VOTED AGAINST LAST TIME?

Again, absolutely yes. As well as changing minds, we need to make sure that all the MPs who voted with us last time do so again. Even just reminding them to show up and vote is very important. This vote takes place soon after MPs return from recess, and amid a lot of political upheaval, so turnout will be a big factor.

WHAT IF MY MP IS PRO-ABORTION?

Do not make any assumptions on assisted suicide based on how your MP votes on abortion. For most MPs, they are very separate issues, and many MPs who are pro-abortion may be against assisted suicide. Unless you are sure your MP is pro-life on abortion, it would be prudent not to bring the subject up when lobbying an MP on this assisted suicide Bill.

DOES IT MATTER WHAT POLITICAL PARTY MY MP IS IN?

Your concerns with the Bill, and your own personal stories or experience, will be the same whatever party your MP is in. However, it is worth considering your MP's political views more broadly when preparing for the meeting and planning your messaging appropriately.

DO YOU HAVE ANY MORE TIPS TO MAKE THE MEETING A SUCCESS?

- Be as polite and respectful as possible.
- Thank them for their time, and, if you can, thank them for one other piece of work they have done that you approve of, such as a local issue. Showing appreciation will get the meeting off to a positive start and help build rapport.
- Don't be nervous! You will almost certainly know more about the issue than your MP does.

Please let us know how your meeting goes. Send a report into: political@spuc.org.uk

EVERY LIFE IS WORTH LIVING

Every vote against assisted suicide matters
because every life matters.



SOCIETY FOR THE **PROTECTION** OF UNBORN CHILDREN
Unit B, 3 Whitacre Mews, Stannary Street, London SE11 4AB, UK
TEL: +44 (0)20 7091 7091 WEB: www.spuc.org.uk