

Democratic Flaws and Solutions

Key Flaws in UK Democracy:	Solutions: Investors In Democracy/Consensus Proposals
1. The party whip system periodically suppresses democratic representation of the electorate by the MP in Parliament. This is not true representational democracy.	No party whip. MP/politician votes (subject to practical considerations) according to the democratic consensus of the electorate represented.
2. MP Standards/Codes of conduct in public life originating in Westminster have historically been ineffective* and lack accountability. They fail to define MP obligations to their constituents. *Eg: MP expense abuse scandal, MPs workload diluted by other jobs/consultancies etc	Endorsed code of conduct to electorate as part of a proposed (Investor In Democracy) standard. This would encourage MPs/politicians to be more focussed and accountable to their electorate against the defined standards.
3. Aim of politics and job role with responsibilities to electorate not defined for MP's.	Political aim clearly defined and MP job description or service level agreement originated. MPs must work solely for their constituents.
4. Long term all-party consensus strategy and planning for the nations assets and challenges does not exist.	Develop cross-party costed out long term S.M.A.R.T. strategies for Energy supplies, NHS services, Transport, EU policy, immigration, Education etc across two or more terms of Parliament. (eg 10 year plans)
5. MP's can serve 4 or 5 years without the formal appraisal of their service, achievements or shortcomings reviewed by their electorate.	Annual service evaluation encouraged via constituent reviews/forums etc and option to recall MP for by-election - if sought by a dissatisfied constituency electorate.
6. Unlike most professional roles in the economy MPs do not have a professional/personal development plan to support their public service role.	Development of resource (IPADE)* and structures to offer job role induction and continuous professional development (CPD) option against a national standard. * Institute Of Political & Democratic Excellence
7. The current UK democratic system does not offer equal opportunities/a level playing field to credible independent candidates or small political parties seeking election to public office. Eg: No equal access to radio/tv media and unfair candidate coverage by newspapers. Also financial barriers exist impacting on Independents and new entrants to public service. Eg: Police Commissioner Elections November 2012.	Development of measures to ensure media coverage is not focussed on the main parties with fair access to candidates in radio/televised debates and newspaper coverage. To seek practical solutions to ensure that those seeking political/representational office are not excluded from the democratic process because of election campaign funding inequality. (Eg: on electorate mailing)
8. The current (2014) membership of the House of Commons and Cabinet does not reflect the make up of the society it represents. Eg Many millionaires/ex lobbyists etc in key roles etc. This needs addressing.	Encourage more ordinary people and provide support and encouragement for them to enter politics. Thus providing true representation of all sectors of society to reflect the will of the majority - not the privileged few.