* Electoral Reform‏

Paul Turner

30/05/2013

To: letters@thetimes.co.uk

Sir,

Whilst Rotten Boroughs may remind Christopher van der Noot (Letters, May 30) of the uneven size of constituencies and the Lib Dems veto of boundary changes, could I remind him that the Great Reform Bill of 1832 (introduced by his great-great-great grandfather, 2nd Earl Grey) increased the electorate by just 2%, 95% remaining disenfranchised.

Boundary change is merely tinkering at the edge of a still rotten electoral system: there are far greater electoral reform imperatives. My constituency, North Wiltshire (formerly Chippenham), has been a safe seat for almost 100 years; indeed, the Electoral Reform Society states that the seat of Haltemprice and Howden has been held by the same party since 1837. Many voters have remained disenfranchised over the years since 1832.

Sincerely

Paul Turner