# Calls grow to revoke Simon Hart’s peerage amid scandal over whistleblower diary revelations



Former Welsh Secretary Simon Hart now finds himself at the centre of a brewing scandal, with mounting calls from within political circles to see his peerage revoked. His recently published book, Ungovernable: The Political Diaries of a Chief Whip, offers revealing, and arguably damaging, diary extracts from his time overseeing party discipline—a role demanding utmost confidentiality and trust.

Hart’s candid recounting includes eyebrow-raising incidents, such as an MP reaching out for rescue after being stranded “in a brothel,” among a litany of episodes that have embarrassed the Conservative establishment. Granted a peerage in former Prime Minister Rishi Sunak’s controversial resignation honours list—a roll call widely criticised as a reward for political loyalty rather than merit—Hart’s elevation encapsulates the revolving door culture that has undermined public confidence in Westminster.

Within Conservative ranks, disquiet grows over the implications of his revelations. Sir Alec Shelbrooke, a former defence minister, has publicly condemned Hart’s actions as a severe breach of the trust that is supposed to underpin the parliamentary system. Warning of systemic risks, he emphasised, “If MPs don’t feel they can trust the whips, the system will break down in parliament.” His letter to the House of Lords Appointments Commission demands Hart’s peerage be blocked, citing clear violations of the Nolan principles—fundamental standards of integrity, transparency, and honesty required of public officials.

This call for accountability exposes the flawed honours system, reflecting a wider frustration at self-serving political patronage. Former Conservative MP Kevin Foster’s critique of the list as “a list of Sunak’s mates” encapsulates the cynicism pervading Westminster circles, where perceived cronyism increasingly alienates voters.

Critics from alternative political voices warn that such flagrant disregard for ethical boundaries by those entrusted with parliamentary discipline only further erodes public trust. This situation highlights the urgent need for real reform—a rejection of the cosy networks that allow insiders to shield each other from scrutiny while ordinary citizens bear the consequences of poor governance.

As the Labour government under Kier Starker continues to stumble amidst policy missteps, the emergence of this scandal is a stark reminder of how the political establishment remains riddled with privilege and secrecy. Voters looking for genuine change will find few assurances in the ongoing saga of Simon Hart. It underscores the imperative for a political force grounded in principles of accountability, transparency, and respect for the electorate—qualities glaringly absent in the ruling elite’s current stewardship.

The fallout from Hart’s disclosures will be closely watched, as it raises profound questions about who truly deserves to hold positions of power and the standards to which they should be held. Until such standards are enforced, public faith in Westminster’s ability to govern effectively will continue to decline.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## References

* <https://www.standard.co.uk/culture/books/ungovernable-simon-hart-review-brothels-mps-b1213992.html> - This article reviews Simon Hart's book Ungovernable, highlighting embarrassing incidents including an MP being held at a brothel and various Conservative Party scandals, which have sparked criticism and raised concerns about confidentiality breaches.
* <https://www.panmacmillan.com/authors/simon-hart/ungovernable/9781035068791> - This page provides details about Simon Hart's book Ungovernable, including reviews praising its insight into turbulent times in British politics and its role in lifting the lid on life as a chief whip.
* <https://pembrokeshire-herald.com/111164/fury-as-ex-mp-simon-hart-handed-peerage/> - The article discusses the controversy surrounding Simon Hart's peerage, with criticism from senior Conservatives that his book has breached trust and undermined the whips' office confidentiality, leading to calls for the peerage to be revoked.
* <https://www.shakespeareandcompany.com/books/ungovernable-2> - This page lists Simon Hart's book Ungovernable, describing it as the first insider account of life as a chief whip inside Westminster, offering insights into the tumultuous events under Boris Johnson and Rishi Sunak.
* <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/tory-chief-whip-diary-simon-hart-rishi-sunak-b2701455.html> - The article outlines explosive claims from Hart's book, including bizarre incidents involving Conservative MPs and ministers, highlighting the scandalous nature of the revelations that have embarrassed the Conservative establishment.