

Peer slates Electoral Commission for 'caving in' to pressure from Remain lobby

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The Lord Stoddart of Swindon (independent Labour)

Peer slates Electoral Commission for 'caving in' to Remainer pressure on Vote Leave funding investigation

The independent Labour Peer, Lord Stoddart of Swindon has criticised the Electoral Commission for what he believes is their 'cravenly caving in' to pressure from Remainer MPs and activists over the re-investigation of Vote Leave's funding of 'BeLeave' during the referendum campaign.

Lord Stoddart said: "It is my understanding that the Electoral Commission, not only approved the donation to BeLeave, at the time, but it has already subsequently looked into this issue and found nothing wrong. I find it very disappointing that they appear to have cravenly caved-in to pressure from the Remain lobby and decided to investigate again. The Electoral Commission is supposed to be an independent body and should not be seen to be influenced by political pressure.

"It is very dangerous for our democracy for the Commission to give the impression that it takes action based on who shouts loudest in the political arena."

Ends