

# **Tally Sticks: A Proposal for Transparent and Accountable Governance in the United Kingdom**

## **A Document for Consideration by Members of Parliament**

This document presents the Tally Sticks system, a comprehensive proposal for enhancing transparency and accountability within the UK's governance and financial systems. It is respectfully submitted for your consideration, with a firm belief that its implementation aligns with the fundamental principles enshrined in your oaths as Members of Parliament.

## **Alignment with Parliamentary Oaths**

The Tally Stick system resonates with the core tenets of your oath to serve the public good:

- **Upholding the Law:** The system promotes adherence to the rule of law by providing a transparent and immutable record of all government transactions, ensuring compliance with legal and ethical standards.
- **Serving the Public Interest:** By empowering citizens with access to information and facilitating public scrutiny, the system reinforces your commitment to serving the best interests of the nation.
- **Maintaining Integrity:** The system's inherent transparency discourages corruption and promotes integrity in public office, upholding the high standards expected of elected officials.

## **Proposed Implementation Plan**

The Tally Stick system envisions a phased integration across all institutions involved in public expenditure:

### **Phase 1: Core Government Functions**

- **HM Treasury:** Implement the Tally Stick ledger for recording and tracking all government revenue and expenditure.
- **Department for Work and Pensions:** Utilize the system to enhance transparency and accountability in the distribution of benefits, such as Universal Credit.

- NHS England: Integrate the system to track healthcare spending, ensuring efficient resource allocation and equitable access to services.

## **Phase 2: Publicly Owned Entities**

- BBC: Utilize the Tally Stick system for the transparent management of public funds and operational expenditures.
- Network Rail: Implement the system to track infrastructure investments and ensure accountability for public funds dedicated to transportation.
- Local Councils: Integrate the system for managing local taxes and expenditures, fostering transparency and citizen engagement at the community level.

## **Phase 3: Land Registry and Asset Management**

- HM Land Registry: Incorporate the Tally Stick system to enhance the security and transparency of land ownership records.
- Crown Estate: Utilize the system for transparent management and valuation of Crown Estate assets, ensuring they are used for the public benefit.
- Government Pension Funds: Integrate the system to track investments and ensure responsible stewardship of public funds dedicated to pensions.

## **Key Features and Benefits**

- Blockchain-based Ledger: Provides an immutable and publicly accessible record of all government transactions, ensuring transparency and facilitating audits.
- QR Code Promissory Notes: Empower citizens with greater control over their finances, enabling direct engagement with the system and facilitating secure transactions.
- Public Auditing: Enables citizens, oversight bodies, and independent auditors to scrutinize government spending and hold officials accountable.
- Enhanced Efficiency: Streamlines government processes, reduces administrative costs, and minimizes the risk of errors and fraud.
- Increased Public Trust: Fosters greater trust in government by promoting transparency and demonstrating responsible stewardship of public funds.

## **Refusal: A Contradiction of Principles**

Refusal to consider or adopt the Tally Stick system would represent a contradiction of the very principles enshrined in your oaths as Members of Parliament. It would signal a disregard for transparency, accountability, and the public interest, undermining the trust placed in you by the electorate.

## **Conclusion**

The Tally Stick system offers a practical and principled pathway towards a more transparent, accountable, and equitable UK. It aligns with the core values of public service and reinforces your commitment to upholding the highest standards of governance. We urge you to embrace this opportunity to enhance public trust, improve efficiency, and empower citizens in the management of their nation's resources.