

*MEMO+ is an occasional series of briefing papers on topics of interest to minority ethnic communities in Scotland. It is produced by the **Scottish Council of Jewish Communities** in partnership with **BEMIS – empowering Scotland's ethnic and cultural minority communities**, and is supported by the **Scottish Government**.*

Briefing: The UK Parliament and Government

General Election Results

The elections to the UK Parliament in June 2017 resulted in the Conservative Party having the largest number of seats although no single party has an overall majority.

Number of MPs elected in each political party

Party	No. of seats	Change
Conservative Party	318	-13
Labour Party	262	+30
Scottish National Party	35	-21
Liberal Democrat Party	12	+4
Democratic Unionist Party	10	+2
Sinn Féin	7	+3
Plaid Cymru	4	+1
Green Party	1	0
Independent	1	0

Negotiations have resulted in a so-called 'confidence and supply agreement' between the Conservative Party and the Northern Ireland based Democratic Unionist Party (DUP). The terms of the agreement are that the DUP will support the Conservative Government on all motions of confidence, and other key matters such as the Queen's speech, the Budget, and Finance Bills. The DUP position on other issues will be decided on a case by case basis.

How does the Parliament work?

The Speaker

The Speaker, who is elected from among their own number by the MPs themselves, chairs proceedings in the House of Commons. The Speaker sets aside any party political allegiance and remains politically impartial, taking the interests of all Members equally into account and acting on their behalf. He or she is the highest authority of the House of Commons, represents the Commons to the Queen and the House of Lords, and chairs the House of Commons Commission.

John Bercow has been re-elected as the Speaker of the House of Commons.

The Queen's Speech

The [Government's legislative programme](#) was officially announced on 21 June in the Queen's Speech during the State Opening of Parliament.

Although the Queen reads the Speech, its content is decided entirely by the Government, and it provides an outline of the Government's policies and proposed new legislation for the new parliamentary session. Following the Queen's Speech, there is a six-day debate on the Government's proposals in both the House of Commons and the House of Lords.

Unusually, this year's Queen's Speech presented the parliamentary programme for two years so there will not be another next year. The Government explained that this is because the parliament will spend much of the next two years scrutinising legislation that sets out the details of Britain's exit from the European Union ("Brexit").

The UK Government

The UK Government consists of Ministers who meet as the Cabinet, and make policy decisions which are supported and implemented by the civil service.

Note that not all of their work is directly relevant in Scotland because many issues, such as health and education, are **Devolved**, and are therefore the responsibility of the Scottish Parliament and Government. Other issues, such as foreign policy and immigration, are **Reserved** to the UK Parliament, and laws about these apply throughout the whole of the UK.

The UK Parliament can only pass laws that affect devolved matters in Scotland if the Scottish Parliament gives it permission by means of a Legislative Consent Motion (also referred to as a "Sewel Motion").

The Cabinet

Prime Minister, First Lord of the Treasury and Minister for the Civil Service

Theresa May

Head of the UK Government, responsible for development, implementation, and presentation of Government policy, and representing the United Kingdom abroad.



Theresa May has been Prime Minister since May 2016, and MP for Maidenhead since 1997. Between 2010 and 2016 she was a member of the Cabinet as Minister for Women and Equalities, and from 2012 as Home Secretary. Prior to that, she was a member of the Conservative Shadow Cabinet where she held several posts including Shadow Secretary of State for Education and Employment, Shadow Secretary of State for the Family, and Shadow Leader of the House of Commons. She was also the first woman to chair the Conservative Party.

She was born in Sussex, and has a degree in Geography from Oxford University. Before entering Parliament she worked in banking and was a local Councillor in London.

Theresa May is married. Her interests include walking and cooking.

Chancellor of the Exchequer

Phillip Hammond

The Treasury is responsible for formulating and implementing UK Government financial and economic policy. (Mostly Reserved, so most policy is relevant in Scotland.)



Philip Hammond has been Chancellor of the Exchequer since July 2017, and MP for Runnymede and Weybridge since 1997. He has been a member of the Cabinet since 2010, previously holding the posts of Transport Secretary, Defence Secretary, and Foreign Secretary. Prior to that he was a member of the Conservative Shadow Cabinet where he held several posts including Shadow Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, and Shadow Chief Secretary to the Treasury.

He was born in Essex and has a degree in Philosophy, Politics and Economics from Oxford University. Before entering Parliament he worked in manufacturing and in the oil and gas industries.

Philip Hammond is married with three children. His interests include reading, cinema, and hill-walking in Scotland.

First Secretary of State and Minister for the Cabinet Office

Damian Green

The Cabinet Office is the corporate headquarters of the UK Government. It supports the Prime Minister and ensures the effective running of government.



Damian Green has been First Secretary of State and Minister for the Cabinet Office since June 2017, and MP for Ashford since 1997. He has previously been a member of the Cabinet as Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, and has also held Ministerial posts in the Ministry of Justice and the Home Office, as well as Shadow Secretary of State for Transport, and Shadow Secretary of State for Education.

He was born in Barry, Wales, and has a degree in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics from Oxford University. Before entering Parliament he worked as a journalist for the BBC, Channel 4, and the Times.

Damian Green is married with two daughters.

Home Secretary

Amber Rudd

The Home Office is the lead UK Government department for immigration and passports, drugs policy, counter-terrorism, and the police. (Both Reserved and Devolved areas) The Government Equalities Office is responsible for equality strategy. (Policy is Reserved but implementation is Devolved)



Amber Rudd has been Home Secretary since July 2017, and MP for Hastings and Rye since 2010. She has been a member of the Cabinet since 2015, initially as Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change.

She was born in London and has a degree in History from Edinburgh University. Before entering Parliament she worked in investment banking and venture capital.

Amber Rudd has two children. Her interests include visiting theatres and galleries, watching good TV series, and working out at the gym.

Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs

Boris Johnson

The Foreign and Commonwealth Office is responsible for promoting British interests overseas, and supporting British citizens and businesses around worldwide. (Reserved, so policy is relevant in Scotland.)



Boris Johnson has been Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs since July 2017, and an MP since 2001, initially for Henley, and since 2015 for Uxbridge and South Ruislip. He has been a member of the Cabinet since 2016, and was a member of the Shadow Cabinet from 2004 to 2007, when he held the post of Shadow Minister for Business, Innovation and Skills. He was also Mayor of London from 2008 to 2016.

He was born in New York and has a degree in Classics from Oxford University. Before entering Parliament he worked as a journalist.

Boris Johnson is married with five children. His interests include reading, writing, painting, and current affairs.

Secretary of State for Defence

Michael Fallon

The Ministry of Defence is responsible for defence policy, and for all of the armed services. (Reserved, so policy is relevant in Scotland)



Michael Fallon has been Secretary of State for Defence since July 2014, and MP for Sevenoaks since 1997. From 1983 to 1992 he was MP for Darlington. He previously held Ministerial posts in the departments of Business and Enterprise, Business, Innovation, and Skills, and Energy and Climate Change, and has also been Minister for Portsmouth. He was previously a junior education minister, and has also held the posts of Shadow Minister for Trade and Industry, Shadow Financial Secretary to the Treasury, and Deputy Chairman of the Party.

He was born in Perth and has a degree in Classics and Ancient History from St Andrews University. Between his two terms of office, he set up and ran a chain of nursery schools.

Michael Fallon is married and has two sons, and was made a Knight Commander of the Order of the Bath in David Cameron's Resignation Honours List.

Lord Chancellor, Secretary of State for Justice

David Lidington

The Justice Department is responsible for the court system, and prison service in England and Wales, and for constitutional issues. (Mostly Devolved, so most policy is not directly relevant in Scotland.)



David Lidington has been Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice since June 2017, and MP for Aylesbury since 1992. He has been a member of the Cabinet since 2010 as Minister of State for Europe, and he has also been Leader of the House of Commons. He earlier held the posts of Shadow Home Affairs Minister, Shadow Financial Secretary to the Treasury, Shadow Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, and Shadow Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, but was not included as a member of the Shadow Cabinet.

He was born in London and has a PhD in History from Cambridge University. Before entering politics he worked for BP and Rio Tinto.

David Lidington is married with four sons.

Secretary of State for Education

Justine Greening

The Department for Education is responsible for education and children's services. (Devolved, so policy is not directly relevant in Scotland.)



Justine Greening has been Secretary of State for Education since July 2016, and MP for Putney since 2005. She has been a member of the Cabinet since 2011, and previously held the posts of Secretary of State for Transport and Secretary of State for International Development. Prior to that she held the posts of vice-chair of the Conservative Party, a Junior Shadow Treasury Minister, and Shadow Minister for London.

She was born in Rotherham and has a degree in Economics from Southampton University, and an MBA from London Business School. Before entering Parliament she worked as an accountant for PriceWaterhouseCoopers, GlaxoSmithKline and Centrica.

She is unmarried, and has announced that she is in a same-sex relationship.

Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union

David Davis

The Department for Exiting the European Union is responsible for overseeing negotiations to leave the EU and establishing the future relationship between the UK and EU. (Reserved, so policy is relevant in Scotland.)



David Davis has been Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union since July 2016 when he was appointed following the referendum on leaving the European Union. He has been MP for Haltemprice and Howden since 1997, and was previously MP for Boothferry from 1987. He has been Minister for Europe, Conservative Party Chairman, Shadow Deputy Prime Minister, and Shadow Home Secretary. He resigned his seat in 2008 to force a by-election on the issue of civil liberties, which he then won.

He was born in York and has a degree in Molecular Science and Computer Science from Warwick University, an MBA from London Business School, and studied Advanced Management at Harvard University. Before entering Parliament he worked for Tate and Lyle.

David Davis is married with three children.

Secretary of State for International Trade and President of the Board of Trade

Liam Fox

The Department for International Trade Is responsible for promoting British trade throughout the world. (Mostly Reserved, so policy is relevant in Scotland.)



Liam Fox has been Secretary of State for International Trade and President of the Board of Trade since July 2016, and MP for North Somerset since 2015. He was MP for Woodspring from 1992 to 2015. He has previously been a member of Cabinet as Secretary of State for Defence from 2010 to 2011. He has also held a number of Shadow Cabinet posts including Shadow Foreign Secretary and Shadow Secretary of State for Defence.

He was born in East Kilbride and has a degree in Medicine from Glasgow University. Before entering Parliament he worked as a GP and as a civilian Army Medical Officer.

Liam Fox is married. His interests include skiing, tennis, and diving.

Secretary of State for Business, Energy, and Industrial Strategy

Greg Clark

The Department for Business, Energy, and Industrial Strategy is responsible for business, industrial strategy, science, innovation, energy, and climate change. (Partly Reserved, so some policy areas are relevant in Scotland.)



Greg Clark has been Secretary of State for Business, Energy, and Industrial Strategy since July 2016, and MP for Tunbridge Wells since 2005. He previously held the posts of Financial Secretary to the Treasury, Minister of State in the Department for Communities and Local Government, Minister for Universities, Science, and Cities, and Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government.

He was born in Middlesbrough, and has a degree in economics from Cambridge University, where he was president of the Social Democrats. He has a PhD from the London School of Economics, and before entering Parliament, was a Special Advisor to the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, head of Commercial Policy at the BBC, and Director of Policy for the Conservative Party. He was also a member of Westminster City Council.

Greg Clark is married with three children.

Secretary of State for Health

Jeremy Hunt

The Department of Health is responsible for policy to deliver an affordable, efficient, and sustainable health service. (Devolved, so policy is not directly relevant in Scotland.)



Jeremy Hunt has been Secretary of State for Health since September 2012, and MP for South West Surrey since 2005. From 2010 to 2012 he was Secretary of State for Culture, Media, and Sport, and was responsible for the London Olympics in 2012. He was previously a member of the Conservative Shadow Cabinet holding several posts including Shadow Minister for Disabled People and Shadow Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport.

He was born in London, and has a degree in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics from Oxford University. Before entering Parliament he worked in publishing.

Jeremy Hunt's interests include theatre, classical music, Africa, and Latin dancing.

Secretary of State for Work and Pensions

David Gauke

The Department for Work and Pensions is the biggest public service delivery department. It is responsible for welfare and pension policy. (Both Reserved and Devolved areas.)



David Gauke has been Secretary of State for Work and Pensions since June 2017, and MP for South West Hertfordshire since 2005. He has previously held a number of Ministerial posts including Chief Secretary to the Treasury and Exchequer Secretary to the Treasury, and before that was a shadow Treasury minister.

He was born in Ipswich and has a law degree from Oxford. Before entering Parliament he worked as a solicitor, specialising in corporate law.

He is married and has three sons.

Secretary of State for Transport

Chris Grayling

The Department of Transport is responsible for developing a transport system that balances the needs of the economy, the environment and society. (Devolved, so policy is not directly relevant in Scotland.)



Chris Grayling has been Secretary of State for Transport since July 2016, and MP for Epsom and Ewell since 2001. He previously held a number of Ministerial posts including Minister of State for Employment, Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, Leader of the House of Commons, and Lord President of the Council. Prior to that he was an Opposition Whip, spokesman on Health and Education, Shadow Leader of the Commons, and Shadow Secretary of State, first for Transport and then for Work and Pensions, and Shadow Home Secretary. He was born in London and has a degree in History from Cambridge University. Before entering Parliament he published a number of books and worked for the BBC and Channel 4.

He is married with two children.

Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government

Sajid Javid

Communities and Local Government has responsibility for race equality and community cohesion related issues, local government, urban regeneration, housing, planning, and fire and rescue. (Mostly Devolved, so most policy is not directly relevant in Scotland.)



Sajid Javid has been Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government since July 2016 and MP for Bromsgrove since 2010. He previously held posts as Economic Secretary, City Minister, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, Minister for Equalities, and Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, Secretary of State for Business, Innovation, and Skills, and President of the Board of Trade.

He was born in Rochdale and has a degree in politics and economics from Exeter University. Before entering Parliament, he was a Vice-President of Chase Manhattan Bank and then Managing Director of Deutsche Bank.

He is married with four children.

Lord President of the Council and Leader of the House of Commons

Andrea Leadsom

The Lord President of the Council is responsible for the business of the Privy Council. The post is usually combined with that of Leader of the House of Commons, who is responsible for organising Government business in the House of Commons.



Andrea Leadsom has been Lord President of the Council and Leader of the House of Commons since June 2016, and MP for South Northamptonshire since 2010. She has previously been a member of the Cabinet as Secretary of State for Environment, Food, and Rural Affairs, and has also held the posts of Economic Secretary to the Treasury and Minister of State for Energy. She was a candidate for the Leadership of the Conservative Party following David Cameron's resignation, but conceded to Theresa May.

She was born in Aylesbury and has a degree in politics from Warwick University. Before entering Parliament she worked in the finance sector.

She is married with two sons and a daughter.

Leader of the House of Lords and Lord Privy Seal

Baroness Evans of Bowes Park

The Leader of the House of Lords is responsible for organising Government business in the House of Lords.



Natalie Evans was made a life peer in 2014 as Baroness Evans of Bowes Park, having previously worked for charities and in the Conservative Party Research Department. She was appointed a Government Whip in the House of Lords in 2015, and Leader of the Lords in 2016.

She was born in London, and has a degree in social and political science from Cambridge University. Her husband is a Special Advisor to the Secretary of State for Defence, Michael Fallon.

Secretary of State for Scotland

David Mundell

The Scotland Office is responsible for representing Scottish interests at UK Government level and UK Government interests in Scotland.



David Mundell has been Secretary of State for Scotland since May 2015, and MP for Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale since 2005. He previously held the post of Under-Secretary of State for Scotland. From 1999 to 2005 he was a Regional MSP in the Scottish Parliament for the South of Scotland

He was born in Dumfries, studied Law in Edinburgh, and has an MBA from Strathclyde Business School. While at university, he joined the Social Democratic Party and was an SDP Councillor. Before entering the Scottish Parliament he worked as a solicitor.

He is divorced, with three children, and in 2016 announced he is gay.

Secretary of State for Wales

Alun Cairns

The Wales Office is responsible for representing Welsh interests at UK Government level and UK Government interests in Wales.



Alun Cairns has been Secretary of State for Wales since March 2016, and MP for the Vale of Glamorgan since 2010, and was a Regional AM (Member of the Welsh Assembly) from 1999 to 2011. He was born near Swansea, and has an MBA from the University of Wales. He worked for Lloyds Banking Group before entering politics.

He is married with one son.

Secretary of State for Northern Ireland

James Brokenshire

The Northern Ireland Office is responsible for representing Northern Ireland interests at UK Government level, and UK Government interests in Northern Ireland.



James Brokenshire has been Secretary of State for Northern Ireland since July 2016, and MP for Old Bexley and Sidcup since 2010. He was MP for Hornchurch from 2005 to 2010, when the constituency was abolished. He was previously a junior minister at the Home Office, with responsibility successively for Crime Reduction, for Crime and Security, and for Security and Immigration.

He was born in Southend-on-Sea, and has a law degree from the University of Exeter. Before entering Parliament he practiced as an international lawyer, and he is married with two daughters and a son.

Secretary of State for Environment, Food, and Rural Affairs

Michael Gove

The Department of Environment, Food, and Rural Affairs is responsible for policy and regulations on the environment, food and rural affairs. (Devolved, so policy is not directly relevant in Scotland.)



Michael Gove has been Secretary of State for Environment, Food, and Rural Affairs since June 2017, and MP for Surrey Heath since 2005. He has held several Cabinet posts including Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, and Secretary of State for Education, and was previously a member of the Conservative Shadow Cabinet, holding the posts of Shadow Minister for Housing and Shadow Secretary of State for Children, Schools, and Families.

He was born Graham Logan in Edinburgh, and was adopted by a family in Aberdeen. He has a degree in English from Oxford University, and before entering Parliament he worked as a journalist on newspapers, radio, and television. He has written several books, most recently a study of the emergence of Islamism.

Michael Gove is married with two children.

Secretary of State for International Development

Priti Patel

The Department for International Development manages Britain's overseas aid, and works to eliminate extreme poverty. (Reserved, so policy is relevant in Scotland.)



Priti Patel has been Secretary of State for International Development since July 2016 and MP for Witham since 2010. She has previously held Ministerial posts in the Department for Work and Pensions, and the Treasury.

She was born in South London and has degrees in Economics, Sociology, and Social Anthropology from Keele University, and in British Government and Politics from Essex University. Before entering Parliament she was head of the press office of the Referendum Party, worked in Public Relations for British American Tobacco, and Diageo.

She is married with one son.

Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media, and Sport

Karen Bradley

The Department for Digital, Culture, Media, and Sport is responsible for policy on the arts, sport, the National Lottery, tourism, libraries, museums and galleries, broadcasting, and press freedom and regulation. (Mostly Devolved, so most policy is not directly relevant in Scotland.)



Karen Bradley has been Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media, and Sport since July 2016, and MP for Staffordshire Moorlands since 2010. She previously served as a Government Whip, and as Minister for Preventing Abuse, Exploitation and Crime in the Home Office.

She was born in Newcastle-under-Lyme and has a degree in Mathematics from Imperial College, London. Before entering Parliament she worked for a number of accountancy firms and as a tax consultant.

She is married with two sons.

Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster

Patrick McLoughlin

The Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster is theoretically responsible for the administration of the estates of the Duchy of Lancaster, but is in fact a senior cabinet minister without portfolio.



Patrick McLoughlin has been Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster since July 2016, and MP for West Derbyshire (now Derbyshire Dales) since 1986. He has previously held Cabinet posts as Secretary of State for Transport, and as Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasury and Chief Whip, and held several junior ministerial posts in the previous Conservative administration. He also held posts as a Whip whilst in Opposition.

He was born in Stafford and studied at Staffordshire College of Agriculture. Before entering Parliament he worked in agriculture, and, like his father and grandfather, as a collier, and was a local Councillor. He came to national attention when he told the 1984 Conservative Conference that he was working during the NUM strike.

Patrick McLoughlin is married with two children. His interests include walking and gardening.

The following also attend Cabinet Meetings:

Chief Secretary to the Treasury

Elizabeth Truss

The Treasury is responsible for formulating and implementing UK Government financial and economic policy. (Mostly Reserved, so most policy is relevant in Scotland.)



Elizabeth (Liz) Truss has been Chief Secretary to the Treasury since June 2017, and MP for South West Norfolk since 2010. She has previously been a member of the Cabinet as Secretary of State for Justice and Lord Chancellor (the first woman in the history of the post), and Secretary of State for the Environment, Food, and Rural Affairs, and has also been a junior minister with responsibility for education and childcare.

She was born in Oxford, went to school in Paisley, and returned to Oxford to study, where she was President of the Liberal Democrats. Before entering Parliament she worked for Shell and Cable and Wireless, and for the think-tank Reform.

She is married with two daughters.

Attorney General

Jeremy Wright

The Attorney General is the chief legal adviser of the Government in England and Wales. (Devolved, so policy is not directly relevant in Scotland.)



Jeremy Wright has been Attorney General for England and Wales and Advocate General for Northern Ireland since July 2014, and MP for Kenilworth and Southam since 2010. He was MP for Rugby and Kenilworth from 2005 to 2010, when the constituency was abolished. He was previously a junior Minister in the Department of Justice.

He was born in Taunton and has a law degree from Exeter University. Before entering Parliament he practiced as a criminal barrister.

He is married with one son and one daughter.

Minister of State (Home Office) (Immigration)

Brandon Lewis

(Immigration is a Reserved matter, so policy is also relevant in Scotland.)



Brandon Lewis has been Minister of State for Immigration since June 2017 and MP for Great Yarmouth since 2010. He has previously held Ministerial posts in the Home Office with responsibility for Housing and Planning, and for Policing and the Fire Services.

He was born in East London, and has degrees in Economics from the University of Buckingham and in Law from Buckingham and King's College London, and has practiced as a barrister.

He is married with two children.

Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasury and Chief Whip

Gavin Williamson

The Treasury is responsible for formulating and implementing UK Government financial and economic policy. (Mostly Reserved, so most policy is relevant in Scotland.)



Gavin Williamson has been Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasury and Chief Whip since July 2016, and MP for South Staffordshire since 2010. He has previously been Parliamentary Private Secretary to former Prime Minister David Cameron.

He was born in Scarborough, and has a degree in Social Sciences from Bradford University. Before entering Parliament he worked in the pottery industry, and as a property consultant.

He is married with no children.

Junior Ministers

Contact details for all MPs are on the UK Parliament website at

<http://www.parliament.uk/mps-lords-and-offices/mps/>

Cabinet Office

Parliamentary Under Secretary of State	Chris Skidmore
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State	Caroline Nokes

Treasury

Paymaster General, and Financial Secretary to the Treasury	Mel Stride
Economic Secretary to the Treasury	Stephen Barclay
Economic Secretary to the Treasury	Andrew Jones

Home Office

Minister of State	Ben Wallace
Minister of State	Nick Hurd
Minister of State	Baroness Williams of Trafford
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State	Sarah Newton

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Minister of State	Alan Duncan
Minister of State	Rory Stewart
Minister of State	Alistair Burt
Minister of State	Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon
Minister of State	Mark Field

Ministry of Defence

Minister of State	Mark Lancaster
Minister of State	Earl Howe
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State	Tobias Ellwood
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State	Harriett Baldwin

Ministry of Justice

Minister of State	Dominic Raab
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State	Sam Gyimah
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State	Philip Lee

Department for Education

Minister of State	Nick Gibb
Minister of State	Anne Milton
Minister of State	Jo Johnson
Minister of State	Robert Goodwill
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State	Lord Nash

Department for Exiting the European Union

Minister of State	Baroness Anelay of St Johns
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State	Robin Walker
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State	Steve Baker

Department for International Trade

Minister of State	Greg Hands
Minister of State	Lord Price
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State	Mark Garnier

Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy

Minister of State	Claire Perry
Minister of State	Jo Johnson
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State	Margot James
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State	Richard Harrington
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State	Lord Prior of Brampton

Department of Health

Minister of State	Philip Dunne
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State	Jackie Doyle-Price
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State	Steve Brine
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State	Lord O'Shaughnessy

Department for Work and Pensions

Minister of State	Damian Hinds
Minister of State	Penny Mordaunt
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State	Caroline Dinenage
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State	Guy Opperman
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State	Baroness Buscombe

Department for Transport

Minister of State	John Hayes
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State	Paul Maynard
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State	Jesse Norman
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State	Lord Callanan

Department for Communities and Local Government

Minister of State	Alok Sharma
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State	Jake Berry
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State	Marcus Jones
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State	Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth

Office of the Leader of the House of Commons

Parliamentary Secretary	Michael Ellis
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Office of the Leader of the House of Lords

Deputy Leader of the House of Lords	Earl Howe
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Scotland Office

Parliamentary Under Secretary of State	Ian Duncan
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Wales Office

Parliamentary Under Secretary of State	Guto Bebb
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Northern Ireland Office

Parliamentary Under Secretary of State	Chloe Smith
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State	Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

Minister of State	George Eustice
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State	Therese Coffey
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State	Lord Gardiner of Kimble

Department for International Development

Minister of State	Rory Stewart
Minister of State	Alistair Burt
Minister of State	Lord Bates

Department for Culture, Media and Sport

Minister of State	Matt Hancock
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State	Tracey Crouch
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State	John Glen
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State	Lord Ashton of Hyde

Law Officers

Solicitor General	Robert Buckland
Advocate General for Scotland	Lord Keen of Elie

Opposition

Labour Party Leader, and Leader of the Opposition

Jeremy Corbyn



Jeremy Corbyn has been Leader of the Labour Party since May 2015, and MP for Islington North since 1983. He had not previously held any Ministerial posts. His political interests include Trade Union matters and Nuclear Disarmament, and he supports the renationalisation of public utilities.

He was born in Chippenham. He studied Trade Union Studies at North London Polytechnic but left before taking a degree. Before entering Parliament he worked as a representative for various Trades Unions, and briefly as a journalist, and was a Councillor on Haringey Council.

He has been married three times and divorced twice, and has three sons with his second wife.

Scottish National Party Leader at Westminster

Ian Blackford



Ian Blackford was elected Leader of the SNP at Westminster in June 2017, and has been MP for Ross, Skye, and Lochaber since 2015. He was previously Shadow SNP spokesperson for Pensions, and has been Treasurer of the SNP.

He was born in Edinburgh. Before entering Parliament he worked as an investment banker.

He is married with adult children, and his interests include supporting Hibernian Football Club.

Liberal Democrat Party Leader

Vince Cable



Vince Cable was elected as Leader of the Liberal Democrat Party in July 2017. He was MP for Twickenham from 1997 to 2015, and was re-elected for the same constituency in 2017. He was a member of the Cabinet during the Conservative-Liberal Democrat coalition government, when he was Secretary of State for business, Innovation, and Skills. He was previously Shadow Chancellor of the Exchequer, and has held junior Shadow Ministerial positions in the Department of Trade and Industry, and the Treasury. He was a Labour Councillor on Glasgow City Council. In 1982 he joined the Social Democratic Party, which later merged with the Liberal Party to form the Liberal Democrats.

He was born in York, and has a degree in Economics from Cambridge University, and a PhD from Glasgow University, where he subsequently taught. Before entering Parliament he also worked as an economist for Shell.

His first wife, with whom he had three children, died in 2001, and he has since remarried.

Democratic Unionist Party Leader at Westminster

Nigel Dodds



Nigel Dodds has been Leader of the DUP at Westminster since 2010, and MP for Belfast North since 2001. He has been Shadow DUP spokesperson for Reform and Constitutional Issues, Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, Justice, Business, Enterprise, and Regulatory Reform, and the Treasury.

He was born in Derry, and has a degree in Law from Cambridge University. Before entering Parliament he worked as a barrister in Northern Ireland, and subsequently worked at the Secretariat of the European Parliament.

He is married with a son and a daughter.

Plaid Cymru Leader at Westminster

Liz Saville Roberts



Liz Saville Roberts has been Leader of Plaid Cymru at Westminster since June 2017, and MP for Dwfor Meirionnydd since 2015 (Plaid Cymru's first woman MP). She has been Plaid Cymru Shadow Spokesperson for Business and Industrial Strategy, Home Affairs, Education, Health, Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, Women and Equalities, Local Government, Energy and Natural Resources, and Justice. She was previously a Councillor in Gwynedd County Council.

She was born in London and has a degree in Languages from Aberystwyth University. Before entering Parliament she worked as a journalist, and a Further Education lecturer in Welsh language education.

She is married with two daughters, and her interests include horse riding, walking, and looking after her three horses, two dogs, and one goat.

Green Party Co-Leader

Caroline Lucas



Caroline Lucas has been Co-Leader of the Green Party since 2016, and was also previously Leader of the party between 2008 and 2012. She has been MP for Brighton Pavilion since 2010 when she became the Green Party's first MP. She was previously a Member of the European Parliament. She has been very active in campaigning for nuclear disarmament.

She was born in Malvern and has a PhD in English Literature from Exeter University and a Diploma in Journalism from Kansas University. Before entering Parliament she worked as a press officer for Oxfam, and she is a Vice-President of the RSPCA.

She is married with two sons.

Sinn Féin

Although it won 7 seats at the 2017 General Election, Sinn Féin has a policy of refusing to swear allegiance to the Queen, and therefore its MPs do not take their seats, and so cannot attend Parliament or vote on Bills. As a result, there is no Sinn Féin leader at Westminster.

Useful Links

- **The UK Parliament**
<http://www.parliament.uk/>
- **Alphabetical list of MPs**
<http://www.parliament.uk/mps-lords-and-offices/mps/>
- **House of Commons Enquiry Service**
<http://www.parliament.uk/mps-lords-and-offices/offices/commons/hcio/>
The office can be contacted by e-mail hcenquiries@parliament.uk or telephone 0800 112 4272 / 020 7219 4272

- **House of Lords External Communications**
<http://www.parliament.uk/mps-lords-and-offices/offices/lords/house-of-lords-external-communications/>
 The office can be contacted by e-mail hinfo@parliament.uk or telephone 0800 223 0855 and 020 7219 3107
- **UK Parliament TV**
 House of Commons: <http://www.parliamentlive.tv/Commons>
 House of Lords: <http://www.parliamentlive.tv/Lords>
 Committees: <http://www.parliamentlive.tv/Committees>
 Live broadcasts and archived video of proceedings in both Houses of Parliament and Committees
- **UK Government Departments**
<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations>
 Links to the websites of all UK Government Departments
- **BBC Parliament**
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/tv/bbcparliament>
 Live broadcasts and archived video of proceedings in the UK and Scottish Parliaments, and Welsh and Northern Irish Assemblies
- **MEMO+ The UK Government Legislative Programme**
http://www.scojec.org/memo+/2017/17vi_uk_legislative_programme.pdf



The **Scottish Council of Jewish Communities (SCoJeC)** is the representative body of all the Jewish communities in Scotland. It advances public understanding about the Jewish religion, culture and community, and also works in partnership with other organisations to promote good relations and understanding among community groups and to promote equality. (Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation SC029438) <http://www.scojec.org/>



BEMIS is the Scottish national Ethnic Minorities led umbrella body, supporting, empowering, and building the capacity of minority third sector community organisations. As a strategic partner with Government, it is proactive in influencing the development of race equality policy in Scotland, and helps develop and progress multicultural Scotland, active citizenship, democracy, and Human Rights Education at the Scottish, UK, and European levels. (Scottish Charity, no. SC027692) <http://www.bemis.org.uk/>



The **Scottish Government** is committed to promoting equality of opportunity and social justice for all those who live in Scotland. **One Scotland** is the Scottish Government campaign designed to tackle racism. It aims to raise awareness of racist attitudes, highlight its negative impact and recognise the valuable contributions that other cultures have made to our society – and make Scotland no place for racism. <http://www.gov.scot/>