

# Cabinet appointments – July 2019

## Andrea Leadsom – Business Secretary

Andrea Leadsom has twice contested the party's leadership. In 2016, the MP for South Northamptonshire unexpectedly made the final two alongside Theresa May but pulled out of the contest following an interview in which she suggested that being a mother made her a better candidate. In this year's contest, she was eliminated in the first round. She served in cabinet as **Environment Secretary** from 2016-17 and then as leader of the House of Commons. The 56-year old, who worked in investment banking for more than 20 years before entering Parliament in 2010, backed Leave in the EU referendum. She quit the cabinet in May in protest at the former PM's doomed attempts to get her Brexit deal through Parliament. During the Coalition years she held the position of **Minister of State for energy** at what was then the department of Energy and Climate Change.

## Jo Johnson – Minister for Business, Energy, Industrial Strategy and Education

Brother of the PM, Jo Johnson was appointed Director of the Number 10 Policy Unit in 2013 by Prime Minister David Cameron. He became Minister of State for the Cabinet Office in 2014 and Minister of State for **Universities**, Science, Research and Innovation in 2015. Following the January 2018 cabinet reshuffle, Johnson served as Minister of State for Transport and Minister for London; he resigned in November the same year, citing the failure of the Brexit negotiations to achieve what had been promised by the Vote Leave campaign and his wish to campaign for a new EU referendum.

## Kwasi Kwarteng - Minister for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy

In November 2018, Kwarteng was appointed Under-Secretary of State at the Department for Exiting the European Union (DExEU), following the resignation of Suella Braverman.

## **Theresa Villiers – Environment Secretary**

Former Northern Ireland secretary, Theresa Villiers, has backed Boris Johnson from the start. Elected in 2005 as MP for Chipping Barnet, she has also served as Transport Minister and shadow Chief Secretary to the Treasury. Prior to being elected an MP, she served as an MEP from 1999. She has spoken out against the backstop plan and said she would be prepared to back a no-deal Brexit.

## **Gavin Williamson – Education Secretary**

The former Defence Secretary was sacked by Theresa May in May after a row over the leaking of information from the National Security Council. The 43-year old insisted that neither he nor any of his aides had briefed the newspapers about confidential discussions over the role of Chinese firm Huawei in a vital broadband contract. Despite this setback, Mr Williamson remains a key power broker within the party, having served as a ministerial aide to David Cameron and then as chief whip, in charge of party discipline. Mr Williamson, who backed remain in the EU referendum, helped run Boris Johnson's campaign in the first phase of the Tory leadership contest.

## **Boris Johnson – PM**

The former Mayor of London has previously held only one cabinet position, Foreign Secretary, under Theresa May. But Mr Johnson, a leading Brexiteer, was at odds with Mrs May's Brexit vision and eventually quit the role in protest last year. The Eton and Oxford-educated former political journalist says the UK will leave the EU on 31 October, "deal or no deal".

## **Alister Jack – Scottish Secretary**

Businessman Alister Jack was elected MP for Dumfries and Galloway in 2017 and was appointed assistant government whip in February 2019.

## **Alok Sharma – International Development Secretary**

The former Employment Minister and MP for Reading qualified as a chartered accountant and worked in banking. Although he campaigned to remain in the EU, he has since said he would be prepared to leave with no deal if it proved impossible to negotiate a new one before 31 October.

## **Alun Cairns – Welsh Secretary**

MP for the Vale of Glamorgan, Alun Cairns served as secretary of state for Wales in Theresa May's cabinet. The former banker and Welsh assembly member was born in Swansea and is a graduate of the University of Wales, Newport. He became an MP in 2010 and he served in the Welsh Assembly from 1999.

### **Amber Rudd – Work & Pensions, Women & Equalities**

Resigned as Home Secretary in April 2018 over her handling of the Windrush controversy, amid a row over targets to remove illegal immigrants, but returned to cabinet seven months later to take up the post at work and pensions. She has served as MP for Hastings and Rye since 2010, but saw her majority reduced to just 346 in the 2017 election.

### **Baroness Evans – Leader of the Lords**

Baroness Evans was appointed Lords Leader in 2016, her first ministerial role since being ennobled by David Cameron in 2014.

### **Ben Wallace – Defence Secretary**

Mr Wallace trained at Sandhurst before joining the Scots Guards as a platoon commander. During his eight-year spell in the Army, he served in Northern Ireland, Germany, Cyprus and Central America. He was a member of the Scottish Parliament, before winning his seat of Lancaster and Wyre in 2005.

### **Dominic Raab – Foreign Secretary**

As well as being made Foreign Secretary, Dominic Raab has been appointed the first Secretary of State. The staunch Brexiteer, who has been tipped for high office since his election as an MP for Esher and Walton in 2010, has insisted that Brexit must happen on 31 October whether there is a deal or not. After David Davis's resignation as Brexit secretary in July 2018, Mr Raab was appointed as his successor. He quit only months later in opposition to Theresa May's Brexit deal, which he said he couldn't "in good conscience" support. Mr Raab started his career as an international lawyer, before joining the Foreign Office as a diplomat.

### **Grant Shapps – Transport Secretary**

Former International Development Minister, Grant Shapps, was once seen as a high-flyer in the Tory party until he resigned following allegations that he ignored warnings about bullying when he was party co-chairman. He is regarded as having a different background to many of his Tory peers. Mr Shapps was elected MP for Welwyn Hatfield in Hertfordshire in 2005.

### **James Cleverly – Conservative Party Chair**

The MP for Braintree served as Conservative deputy chairman for 18 months and, since April, as a junior Brexit minister. The former soldier, who rose to the rank of lieutenant colonel in the Royal Artillery, is one of the party's most effective media performers.

### **Julian Smith – Northern Ireland Secretary**

Julian Smith has served in the whips' office, rising to be chief whip from November 2017. He was first elected as MP for Skipton and Ripon in 2010.

## **Liz Truss – International Trade Secretary**

Liz Truss was second-in-command at the Treasury in the last cabinet and had previously served as **Environment Secretary** and was the first female Lord Chancellor between 2016 and 2017. Ms Truss was elected to Parliament in 2010 after serving as deputy director of think tank, Reform. In a widely-publicised speech in June 2018, Ms Truss attacked her cabinet colleagues for demanding more money, as she said that would only lead to higher taxation. She said it was important to keep taxes low and demand better value for money instead.

## **Matt Hancock – Health & Social Care Secretary**

The MP for West Suffolk was promoted to Health Secretary after only a few months as Culture Secretary, when Jeremy Hunt became foreign secretary after Boris Johnson's resignation. He campaigned for Remain in the EU referendum but has since backed Theresa May's Brexit plan. The former Bank of England economist previously held office as **Skills Minister**.

## **Michael Gove - Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster**

The MP for Surrey Heath, since 2005, was a key ally of former Prime Minister David Cameron. He made his name as a radical **Education Secretary**, bringing in major changes to exams and the curriculum and battling teaching unions during his four years in the role. In 2016, he famously scuppered the leadership hopes of his friend and fellow Brexiteer Boris Johnson, by announcing his own candidature on the morning Mr Johnson was due to launch his campaign. Mr Gove became **Environment Secretary** in June 2017 and he proved a key advocate of Mrs May's Brexit deal, while other Brexiteer cabinet ministers resigned.

## **Nicky Morgan – Culture Secretary**

Former chair of the Commons Treasury select committee, Nicky Morgan was seen as a protégé of ex-Chancellor George Osborne, having risen through the ranks as a Treasury minister before becoming **Education Secretary** in 2014.

## **Priti Patel – Home Secretary**

Former International Development Secretary, Priti Patel, 47, is an ardent Brexiteer, who has supported Boris Johnson in the leadership contest, describing him as the only person who can save Brexit and the Tories. She was first elected to the seat of Witham, Essex, in 2010, after working for several years in PR for the Conservative Party, as well as lobbying for tobacco and alcohol industries.

## **Robert Buckland – Justice Secretary**

The former solicitor general moved to be prisons minister in the justice department in May 2019. He had previously practised as a lawyer specialising in criminal law and planning.

## **Robert Jenrick – Housing & Communities Secretary**

Former treasury minister, he drew criticism in 2017 when, as chair of the all-party parliamentary group on international trade, he attended US President Donald Trump's inauguration. Mr Jenrick was elected as MP for Newark in a by-election in June 2014.

## **Sajid Javid – Chancellor of the Exchequer**

Sajid Javid was Home Secretary under Theresa May. He backed Remain in the 2016 EU referendum, but with a “heavy heart and no enthusiasm”. He has never hidden his Euroscepticism. A former protégé of former chancellor George Osborne at the Treasury, he was a successful investment banker before he was elected as an MP for Bromsgrove in 2010.

## **Stephen Barclay – Brexit Secretary**

The 47-year old became the third Brexit Secretary in less than six months when he was appointed to the role last November. The MP for North East Cambridgeshire, who voted to leave the EU in the 2016 referendum, supported Boris Johnson in the Tory leadership contest. After studying at Cambridge University, he trained as a solicitor and worked in the City of London.

### Also Attending Cabinet:

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|-----------------|--|
| Jacob Rees-Mogg | Leader of the Commons                                  |
| Rishi Sunak     | Chief Secretary to the Treasury                        |
| Mark Spencer    | Chief Whip   |
| Geoffrey Cox    | Attorney General                                       |
| Esther McVey    | Minister for housing, communities and local government |
| Brandon Lewis   | Minister for home                                      |
| Oliver Dowden   | Paymaster general                                      |