

# Women Members of the Government and Opposition Teams

## 1. The Government

The UK Government is a Coalition consisting of the Conservative Party, with 305 MPs, and the Liberal Democrats, who have 57. 49 (16%) of Conservative MPs are women, and 7 (12%) of Liberal Democrats.

Prior to the election, David Cameron pledged that a third of his cabinet would be women by the end of his first term as Prime Minister. There are currently 4 women members of the Cabinet, 22%.

The following list contains all of the women who hold office in the government in either the House of Commons or the Lords and are therefore termed as being 'on the payroll' (even when they are not actually paid). There are a total of 130 holders of these posts in the current government; 18 (14%) of them are women.

### Women Members of the Government (correct as at 12 October 2010)

(Party affiliation is shown in brackets after the name)

Rt Hon Theresa May MP (Con) Home Secretary, Minister for Women and Equalities

Rt Hon Caroline Spelman MP (Con) Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

Rt Hon Cheryl Gillan MP (Con) Secretary of State for Wales

Rt Hon Baroness Warsi (Con) Minister without Portfolio (unpaid)

#### *Junior (i.e., non-cabinet rank) Ministers*

Baroness Wilcox (Con) Parliamentary Under Secretary of State (Intellectual Property)

Baroness Hanham (Con) Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the Department for Communities and Local Government

Sarah Teather MP (LD) Minister of State at Education (Children and Families)

Lynne Featherstone MP (LD) Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the Home Office, Equalities

Baroness Neville Jones (Con) Minister of State at the Home Office (Security)

Anne Milton MP (Con) Parliamentary Under Secretary of State (Health)

Baroness Verma Spokesperson in the Lords of International Development

Rt Hon Theresa Villiers MP (Con) Minister of State at the Department of Transport (Rail and Aviation)

Justine Greening MP (Con) Economic Secretary at the Treasury

Angela Watkinson MP (Con) Lord Commissioner (Whip)

Chloe Smith MP (Con) Assistant Whip

Maria Miller MP (Con)	Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at Work & Pensions (Disabled People)
Rt Hon Baroness Anelay (Con)	Government Chief Whip in the Lords
Baroness Northover (LD)	Baroness in Waiting

## **2. The Opposition**

Opposition teams (termed shadow ministers) closely reflect the Government teams they are opposing, although the terminology is different and they do not receive any salary other than that which they earn as an MP. Their offices are funded by what is termed 'Short money', i.e., money allocated to the official opposition to enable them to do their job properly. However, the actual titles of the posts do not follow those of government; shadow ministers are organised into teams led by the Shadow Cabinet ministers. The Opposition Whip is not a shadow, since each political party has its own whipping arrangements.

Labour has 255 MPs, of whom 81 (32%) are women.

At the time of writing (12 October 2010) most of the shadow appointments in the Lords had not been announced, and the list below therefore does not include peers other than those of Shadow Cabinet rank. Other appointments will be added as they become known.

39 women have been appointed to shadow jobs so far - 38% of the total shadow team of 101.

Since all of the members of the shadow teams are Labour MPs or peers, party affiliation is therefore not shown. However, a number of junior ministerial posts have been filled by new MPs first elected in 2010, and where this is the case it is indicated by (2010).

### **Women Members of the Shadow (Opposition) Ministerial Team as at 12 October 2010**

Rt Hon Harriet Harman MP	Deputy Leader of the Labour Party, Shadow Secretary of State for International Development,
Rt Hon Yvette Cooper MP	Shadow Foreign Secretary, Shadow Minister for Women & Equalities
Rt Hon Caroline Flint MP	Shadow Communities & Local Government Secretary
Meg Hillier MP	Shadow Energy and Climate Change Secretary
Angela Eagle MP	Shadow Chief Secretary to the Treasury
Maria Eagle MP	Shadow Transport Secretary
Mary Creagh MP	Shadow Environment Secretary
Ann McKeichin MP	Shadow Secretary of State for Scotland
Rt Hon Tessa Jowell MP	Shadow Olympics Minister
Rt Hon Rosie Winterton MP	Opposition Chief Whip

*Also attending Shadow Cabinet meetings:*

Baroness Royall	Shadow Leader of the House of Lords
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Baroness Scotland	Shadow Attorney General
<i>Junior (i.e.. non-shadow cabinet rank) women shadow ministers are:</i>	
Catherine McKinnell MP (2010)	Shadow Solicitor General
Kerry McCarthy MP	Shadow Treasury Minister
Diana Johnson MP	Shadow Home Office Minister
Shabana Mahmood MP (2010)	Shadow Home Office Minister
Emma Reynolds MP (2010)	Shadow Foreign Office Minister
Fiona Mactaggart MP	Shadow Women and Equalities Minister
Sharon Hodgson MP	Shadow Education Minister
Diane Abbott MP	Shadow Health Minister
Emily Thornberry MP	Shadow Health Minister
Liz Kendall MP (2010)	Shadow Health Minister
Rushanara Ali MP (2010)	Shadow International Development Minister
Karen Buck MP	Shadow Work & Pensions Minister
Margaret Curran MP	Shadow Work & Pensions Minister
Rachel Reeves MP (2010)	Shadow Work & Pensions Minister
Nia Griffith MP	Shadow Business Minister
Chi Onwurah MP (2010)	Shadow Business Minister
Alison Seabeck MP	Shadow Communities & Local Government Minister
Barbara Keeley MP	Shadow Communities & Local Government Minister
Helen Goodman MP	Shadow Justice Minister
Gemma Doyle MP (2010)	Shadow Defence Minister
Luciana Berger MP (2010)	Shadow Energy & Climate Change Minister
Helen Jones MP	Shadow Deputy Leader of the House
Gloria de Piero MP (2010)	Shadow Culture, Media and Sport Minister
Roberta Blackman-Woods MP	Shadow Cabinet Office Minister
Lyn Brown MP	Assistant Whip
Angela Smith MP	Assistant Whip
Lillian Greenwood MP (2010)	Assistant Whip