

Government Reshuffle – October 2013

Introduction

On Monday 7th October 2013, David Cameron carried out a ministerial reshuffle that included the promotion of four women as part of his pledge of making a third of all ministers to be female ministers by the next General Election in 2015.

Notable Conservative figures such as Ian Duncan Smith, Work and Pensions Secretary, or the Chancellor of the Exchequer George Osborne have unsurprisingly remained in their respective posts.

The Labour Front Bench also underwent some changes as Ed Miliband attempts to sharpen up the Labour's team before the 2015 general election. More women have also been appointed and "Blairite" Liam Byrne and Stephen Twigg have been dismissed, demonstrating according to some commentators, a shift to the left away from his party's Blairite past. Andy Burnham remains Shadow Health Secretary, which may indicate that Public Health will be a big debate in the General election.

This brief highlights the main changes, which occurred within the Department of Health, the Department for Education and the Department for Culture, Media and Sport as well as within the Shadow Cabinet.

The Coalition – New "line-up"

Department of Health

Secretary of State for Health - **Rt Hon Jeremy Hunt MP**

Minister of State - **Norman Lamb MP**

Parliamentary Under Secretary of State – **Daniel Poulter MP**

Parliamentary Under Secretary of State – **Earl Howe**

Parliamentary Under Secretary of State – **Jane Ellison MP**

Highlight: **Jane Ellison** replaces Anna Soubry as **Parliamentary Under Secretary at Department of Health**. Anna Soubry has been appointed Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the Ministry of Defence.

Department for Education

Secretary of State for Education – **Rt Hon Michael Gove MP**

Minister of State – **Rt Hon David Laws MP** (jointly with the Cabinet Office)

Minister of State – **Matthew Hancock MP** (jointly with the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills)

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Parliamentary Under Secretary of State – **Edward Timpson MP**

Parliamentary Under Secretary of State – **Elisabeth Truss MP**

Parliamentary Under Secretary of State – **Lord Nash**

Highlight: **Matthew Hancock** has been promoted **Minister of State for Skills & Enterprise** jointly at DfE and BIS. He used to be Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Skills.

Department for Culture, Media and Sport

Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport; and Minister for Women and Equalities – **Rt Hon Maria Miller MP**

Parliamentary Under Secretary of State – **Hon Ed Vaizey MP**

Parliamentary Under Secretary of State – **Helen Grant MP**

Parliamentary Under Secretary of State – **Jo Swinson MP** (jointly with the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills)

Highlight: **Helen Grant** appointed as **Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Sport and Equalities** replaces **Hugh Robertson** formerly Minister for Sport and Tourism.

The Shadow Cabinet – New “line-up”

Shadow Deputy Prime Minister, Party Chair and Shadow Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport: **Harriet Harman MP**

Shadow Secretary of State for Health: **Andy Burnham MP**

Shadow Secretary of State for Education: **Tristram Hunt MP** (Formerly Shadow Minister for Education). He replaces Stephen Twigg, former Shadow Education Secretary.

Shadow Secretary of State for Defence: **Vernon Coaker MP** (formerly shadow Northern Ireland secretary) replaces Jim Murphy MP, now Shadow Secretary of State for International Development.