Government and opposition reshuffle

At the start of January, Theresa May undertook a ministerial reshuffle, stating that the reshuffle brings “fresh talent into government” and ensures it “looks more like the country it serves.” The changes saw the promotion of sixteen women and an additional three ministers with responsibilities for housing, health and Brexit.

Jeremy Hunt remains in post, overseeing the newly renamed Department of Health and Social Care. Stephen Barclay and Caroline Dinenage have replaced Philip Dunne as ministers of state, following his resignation.

Labour leader, Jeremy Corbyn, announced 13 appointments to his frontbench, including Paula Sherriff, who becomes shadow minister of state for social care and mental health.

This briefing includes:

1. A summary of the changes to government ministers
2. Ministerial responsibilities in the department of health and social care
3. An overview of changes to the shadow ministerial team
4. Changes made last year to the Liberal Democrat frontbench team
5. Further resources

1. Changes to government ministers

The reshuffle follows a series of cabinet resignations, the most recent being that of the first secretary of state and minister for the cabinet office, Damien Green. Green, the prime minister’s effective deputy, was a key ally of Theresa May and chaired 8 cabinet committees and taskforces. He departed the government after an investigation found he had breached the ministerial code.

The secretaries for the “great offices of state” of the Treasury, Home Office and Foreign Office remain in place, and there were only minor changes to the cabinet. David Lidington, formerly the justice secretary, replaced Damian Green as minister for the cabinet office but not as first secretary of state, although it is likely he will deputise for May at PMQs.

Rumoured to be in-line to replace Damian Green as first secretary of state, the prime minister’s effective deputy, Hunt was reportedly offered the role of business secretary, but made his case to continue with his health brief, with a new reference to social care in his job title. He has now been in post since September
2012, making him the second longest serving health secretary since the inception of the NHS. Meanwhile, Philip Dunne, previously health minister, has left the government, and been replaced by Stephen Barclay and Caroline Dinenage.

Other notable changes include Caroline Nokes becoming immigration minister (her predecessor, Brandon Lewis, becoming minister without portfolio). The Department for Communities and Local Government has been re-designated a ministry and made explicitly responsible for housing.

<table>
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<th>Key cabinet ministers for health and social care</th>
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<td>Prime Minister</td>
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<td>Chancellor of the duchy of Lancaster, and minister for the cabinet office</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chancellor of the exchequer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Secretary of state for health and social care</td>
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<tr>
<td>Secretary of state for housing, communities and local government</td>
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<td>Secretary of state for exiting the European Union</td>
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<td>Secretary of state for the home department and minister for woman and equalities</td>
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**Rt Hon David Lidington MP, chancellor of the duchy of Lancaster, and minister for the cabinet office**

*MP for Aylesbury since 1992, majority of 14,656*

**Portfolio**

- The minister for the cabinet office is in overall charge of and responsible for the policy and work of the department, and attends Cabinet.

**Parliamentary career**

- Lord Chancellor and secretary of state for justice, 2017-18
- Leader of the House of Commons, 2016-17
- Minister of state for Europe and NATO at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office 2010-16
- A former member of the public accounts commission 2016-17, he has also held a number of shadow ministerial positions between 1999 and 2010.
For biographies and portfolios of those key personnel who retained their positions, please see NHS Providers’ post-election briefing.

2. Department of Health and Social Care ministerial team

It is understood that the newly named Department of Health and Social Care will oversee the government’s social care green paper, taking over from the Cabinet Office. However, the now-Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government will maintain responsibility for social care funding.

MINISTERIAL TEAM

Stephen Barclay and Caroline Dinenage join the department as ministers of state, for health and care respectively. Jackie Doyle-Price’s title changes to reflect responsibility for mental health and inequalities.

Maggie Throup MP, a member of the health select committee, becomes parliamentary private secretary to the ministerial team. James Cartilage, formerly in that role becomes parliamentary private secretary to Jeremy Hunt.

**Stephen Barclay MP, minister of state for health**

*MP for North East Cambridgeshire since 2010, majority of 21,270*

**Responsibilities**

- Finance, procurement and operational performance
- Workforce pay and pensions, contracts, and whistleblowing
- Setting the government’s mandate for NHS England
- Transformation and provider policy
Parliamentary career

- Minister of state at the Department of Health and Social Care since 2018
- Economic Secretary at HM Treasury, 2017 - 18
- Government Whip (Lord Commissioner of HM Treasury), 2016-17
- Assistant Whip at HM Treasury, 2015-16
- Member of public accounts committee, 2010 -14

Background

- A former solicitor and army officer, Barclay worked as an insurance company lawyer for Axa insurance and as a regulator for the Financial Conduct Authority
- He was later director of regulatory affairs and separately head of anti-money laundering and sanctions at Barclays Bank
- He supported Theresa May in the 2016 Conservative Party leadership election and supported leave in the 2016 EU referendum

Caroline Dinenage MP, minister of state for social care

*MP for Gosport since 2010, majority of 17,211*

Responsibilities include

- overseeing all aspects of adult social care, including dementia, loneliness and disabilities
- hospital care quality and patient safety
- community health services
- health and social care integration

Ministerial lead for

- It is understood that Caroline Dinenage will have responsibly for the Care Quality Commission.

Parliamentary career

- Parliamentary under-secretary of state at the Department for Work and Pensions, 2017-2018
- Parliamentary under-secretary of state Department for Education, 2016-2017
- Parliamentary under-secretary of state Ministry of Justice, 2015-16
- Minister for equalities, Department for Education, May 2015-16
- Parliamentary private secretary to Nicky Morgan as secretary of state for education and minister for woman and equalities, 2014-15
- Member of the business, innovation and skills committee, 2012-15
- Member of the science and technology committee, 2012-13
Background

- A small business owner, starting her own manufacturing company at the age of 18, Dinenage is a director of her marketing business which sells corporate identity products.
- A former councillor, Dinenage read English and politics at Swansea University and is married to fellow MP Mark Lancaster.
- She supported the Remain campaign in the EU referendum and backed Theresa May as the next Conservative Party Leader and prime Minister in 2016.

For biographies and portfolios of the other members of the ministerial health team, please see NHS Providers’ post-election briefing.

3. Opposition reshuffle

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Key shadow cabinet ministers for health and social care</th>
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<td>Leader of the opposition and leader of the Labour Party</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rt Hon Jeremy Corbyn MP</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shadow chancellor of the exchequer</td>
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<td>Rt Hon John McDonnell MP</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shadow secretary of state for health</td>
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<td>Jonathan Ashworth MP</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shadow secretary of state for communities and local government and co-national campaign coordinator</td>
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<td>Andrew Gwynne MP</td>
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<td>Shadow secretary of state for the home department</td>
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<td>Rt Hon Diane Abbott MP</td>
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<td>Shadow secretary of state for exiting the European Union</td>
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<td>Sir Kier Starmer, KCB, QC MP</td>
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<td>Deputy leader of the Labour Party and shadow culture secretary</td>
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<td>Tom Watson MP</td>
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Changes to the shadow ministerial team

Jeremy Corbyn announced a number of minor changes to his frontbench team, following the departures of Chris Williamson and Alex Cunningham from Labour’s frontbench, who served as shadow ministers for fire services and pensions respectively. Paula Sherriff, was appointed to the role of shadow minister for social care and mental health, one of 13 new appointments.

At the end of 2017, Baroness Thornton was appointed to Labour’s shadow health team, joining Lord Hunt of King’s Heath as health spokesperson in the Lords.
Baroness Thornton, shadow Lords spokesperson on health

Labour/Co-operative peer since July 1998

Parliamentary Career

- Shadow spokesperson on equalities and women’s issues, 2011-15
- Shadow spokesperson on health, 2010-12
- Parliamentary under-secretary (Department of Health) 2010
- Government whip, 2008-10
- Government spokesperson for work and pensions; equality, 2008
- Communications committee, 2007-08
- EU Sub-Committee C, 1998-99 and EU Sub-Committee D, 1999-2000

Biography

- Educated at Thornton Secondary School, Bradford and later went on to study economics at the London School of Economics.
- Director of development and general secretary, Fabian Society, 1993-96
- Chair, Pallmall consult, 2001-08
Paula Sherriff MP, shadow secretary of state for health

MP for Dewsbury since 2015, majority 3,321

Parliamentary career

• Shadow Minister for: Women and Equalities 2016-18
• PPS to Jon Trickett as Shadow Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government 2015-16
• Health select committee member, 2015-16

Biography

• Spent almost a decade working in a crime management and victim support role with victims of serious crime and the courts in pursuit of prosecutions
• A councillor in Wakefield Council 2012-15
• Worked in community healthcare, 2003-13
• Service co-ordinator, Virgin Care 2013-15
• Sherriff is a member of the GMB trade union
• She nominated Yvette Cooper and Owen Smith in the 2015 and 2016 labour leadership contests

For biographies and portfolios of the other members of the shadow ministerial health team, please see NHS Providers’ post-election briefing.

4. Liberal Democrat frontbench team

In July 2017, the newly re-elected Sir Vince Cable became the leader of the Liberal Democrats, overseeing the party’s 100 peers and 12 MPs, Jo Swinson, the former Minister for Women and Equalities and current MP for East Dunbartonshire, was elected unopposed as the party’s deputy leader in June 2017

In October, Sir Vince appointed his team of principle spokespeople. Baroness Jolly became the party’s health spokesperson, replacing former health minister, Norman Lamb, who stood down from the post he had held since July 2015.

Other key spokespeople include: Tom Brake, the party’s spokesperson on exiting the European Union and international trade; Ed Davey, the party’s spokesperson on home affairs; Layla Moran, the party’s spokesperson for education; Wera Hobhouse, the party’s spokesperson for communities and local
government; Baroness Kramer, the party’s treasury spokesperson; and Lord Storey, the party’s young people spokesperson.

**Baroness Jolly**

*Liberal Democrat Peer since 2010*

**Parliamentary career**

- Liberal Democrat spokesperson on health, 2017-
- Liberal Democrat Lords spokesperson on defence, 2015-17
- Government whip, 2013-15
- Member of the Draft Care and Support Bill committee, 2012-13

**Biography**

- A maths teacher for over 15 years she later became a pioneer of IT in schools and worked in the British Council in Oman teaching English and mentoring NVG management students.
- Appointed as a non-executive director of an NHS trust for mental health and learning disability, 1997-07
- Chair of the North & East Cornwall NHS PCT Board
- Lay inspector for the Commission for Health Improvement
- Chief of staff, Lord Teverson MEP for Cornwall and West Plymouth, 1997-99
- Chair, Digital Services Cornwall CIC, 2009-13
- Baroness Jolly sits on the boards of the Citizens Advice Bureau, Credit Union and is chair of trustees at the charity Hft.

5. Further resources

The Prime Minister’s Office has published a full list of government ministers following the January reshuffle.

A full list of Labour’s Shadow Cabinet is published on Labour’s website. January appointments to Labour’s frontbench team can be found here.

For biographies and portfolios of the other members of government, ministerial and shadow ministerial health teams, please see NHS Providers’ post-election briefing.