

Government reshuffle following Cabinet resignations

On the evening of Tuesday 5 July, after a period of considerable pressure on the Prime Minister's leadership, the Health and Social Care Secretary, Sajid Javid, and Chancellor, Rishi Sunak, resigned. Over 50 ministerial and Cabinet resignations followed, including that of Edward Argar as Minister for Health. On Thursday 7 July, Boris Johnson delivered a statement outside Number 10 Downing Street stating that it was "clearly now the will of the Parliamentary Conservative Party" for a new leader and Prime Minister.

Boris Johnson will remain as Prime Minister until a new leader is in place. He has appointed a Cabinet to serve until the new leader and Prime Minister is in place. Former Health Minister and Brexit Secretary Steve Barclay has been appointed as the new Health and Social Care Secretary. Former vaccines minister Nadhim Zahawi has taken over as Chancellor. Maria Caulfield has been promoted to Minister of State within the health team, and James Morris has taken on her patient safety and primary care portfolio.

This briefing includes:

1. [Biographies of the new health ministers](#)
2. [Biography of the new Chancellor](#)
3. [A summary of the other changes made in the reshuffle](#)
4. [Conservative Party leadership contest](#)
5. [NHS Providers press statement](#)

Biographies of the new health ministers

Steve Barclay now oversees the following ministerial team:

- Gillian Keegan MP, Minister of State for Care and Mental Health
- Maria Caulfield MP, Minister of State
- Maggie Throup MP, Minister for Vaccines and Public Health
- James Morris MP, Minister for Patient Safety and Primary Care
- Lord Kamall, Minister for Technology, Innovation and Life Sciences

Rt Hon Steve Barclay MP, Secretary of State for Health and Social Care

Conservative MP for North East Cambridgeshire, first elected in 2010, re-elected in 2019 with a majority of 29,993

Portfolio

The Secretary of State for Health and Social Care has overall responsibility for the business and policies of the department, including: financial control; oversight of all NHS delivery and performance; mental health and championing patient safety.

Parliamentary career

- Secretary of State for Health and Social Care (July 2022-)
- No 10 Chief of Staff (2022)
- Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and Minister for the Cabinet Office (2021-2022)
- Member of Speaker's Committee on the Electoral Commission (2021)
- Chief Secretary to the Treasury (2020-2021)
- Secretary of State for Exiting the EU (2018-2020)
- Minister of State for Health (2018)
- Economic Secretary to the Treasury (2017-2018)
- Lord Commissioner of HM Treasury (Government Whip) (2016-2017)
- Assistant Government Whip (2015-2016)
- Member of Public Accounts Committee (2010-2014)

Biography

- Steve Barclay served as Health Minister in 2018 and has been described as a hawk on health spending. He also gained a reputation for taking a close interest in the operational workings of individual hospitals.
- He then became Secretary of State for Exiting the EU after his predecessor Dominic Raab resigned over the draft EU Withdrawal Agreement. Having been responsible for domestic preparations under Theresa May's premiership, his department (the Department for Exiting the European Union, DExEU) later subsumed responsibility for negotiations following the succession of Boris Johnson as Prime Minister.
- When DExEU ceased to exist on 31 January 2020, he was made Chief Secretary to the Treasury a month later. In Boris Johnson's reshuffle in September 2021 he was promoted to Chancellor of the

- Duchy of Lancaster and Minister for the Cabinet Office, and was made the prime minister's Chief of Staff. The COVID-19 Inquiry was part of his portfolio as the Minister for the Cabinet Office.
- Barclay supported Theresa May in the 2016 Conservative Party leadership election and backed the Leave campaign. At 71.4%, his constituency had the sixth highest share of leave voters in the country.
 - Barclay was elected to Parliament in 2010, having previously stood in the Manchester, Blackley and the Lancaster and Wyre constituencies in the 1997 and 2001 general elections respectively, but winning neither. As MP for North East Cambridgeshire, one of his key priorities includes ensuring healthcare services remains local.
 - Barclay has never rebelled against the party whip during his years in Parliament. He has been described as a "smart, numerate technocrat".
 - Barclay qualified as a solicitor in 1998. He then worked as an insurance company lawyer for AXA Insurance, later at the Financial Services Authority, and as Director of Regulatory Affairs and then Head of Anti-Money Laundering and Sanctions at Barclays Retail Bank.

James Morris MP, Minister for Patient Safety and Primary Care

Conservative MP for Halesowen and Rowley Regis since 2010, re-elected in 2019 with a majority of 12,074

Portfolio

The Minister for Patient Safety and Primary Care is responsible for leading on primary care, community health, major diseases, rare diseases and long COVID, patient safety, maternity care, inquiries, patient experience, cosmetic regulation, gender identify services, blood transplants and organ donation, fertility and embryology, women's health strategy and sponsorship of: NHS Resolution, CQC, NHS Blood and Transplant, Human Tissue Authority and Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority.

Parliamentary career

- Minister for Patient Safety and Primary Care (July 2022-)
- Lord Commissioner of HM Treasury (Whip) (2020-2022)
- Assistant Government Whip (2019-2020)
- PPS to Rt Hon Damian Green MP, First Secretary of State and Minister for the Cabinet Office (2017-2018)
- PPS to Jeremy Hunt, Secretary of State for Health (2016-2017)
- PPS to David Lidington, Minister of State for European Issues and NATO (FCO) (2015-2016)

- PPS to Esther McVey, Secretary of State for Work and Pensions (2014-2015)
- Member of Communities and Local Government Committee (2010-2014)

Biography

- From 2020, James Morris served as a government whip before being appointed as Minister for Patient Safety and Primary Care in July 2022 following the resignation of Ed Argar and promotion of Maria Caulfield MP.
- Morris supported Remain in the 2016 EU referendum, and backed Jeremy Hunt in the 2019 Conservative Party leadership election.
- Morris is passionate about mental health and improving access to services for young people, and has been a member of a number of APPGs, including Youth Affairs, United Nations and Mental Health.
- Prior to Morris' election as Conservative MP for Halesowen & Rowley Regis, he was the Chief Executive of Local is, a local government and localist think tank. He is also a founding director of the London Policy Institute and earlier had a career specialising in computer software.

Biography of the new Chancellor

Rt Hon Nadhim Zahawi MP, Chancellor of the Exchequer

Conservative MP for Stratford-on-Avon since 2010, re-elected in 2019 with a majority of 19,972

Portfolio

The Chancellor of the Exchequer is the government's chief financial minister and as such is responsible for raising revenue through taxation or borrowing and for controlling public spending. He has overall responsibility for the work of the Treasury. The Chancellor's responsibilities cover: fiscal policy (including the presenting of the annual Budget), monetary policy, setting inflation targets, ministerial arrangements (in his role as Second Lord of the Treasury) and overall responsibility for the Treasury's response to COVID-19.

Parliamentary career

- Chancellor of The Exchequer (July 2022-)
- Secretary of State for Education (2021-2022)
- Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, Department for Health and Social Care (2020-2021)
- Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (2019-2021)

- Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Children and Families, Department for Education (2018-2019)
- Member of Foreign Affairs Committee (2017-2018)
- Member of Speaker's Advisory Committee on Works of Art (2017-2018)
- Member of Foreign Affairs Sub-Committee (2016-2017)
- Member of Foreign Affairs Committee (2015-2017)
- Member of Speaker's Advisory Committee on Works of Art (2015-2017)
- Member of Foreign Affairs Committee (2014-2015)
- Member of Privacy and Injunctions (Joint Committee) (2011-2012)
- Member of Committee on Arms Export Controls (2010-2015)
- Councillor, London Borough of Wandsworth Council (1994-2006)

Biography

- Nadhim Zahawi was promoted to Secretary of State for Education in Boris Johnson's 2021 September reshuffle; he then took the role of Chancellor of the Exchequer in July 2022, following the resignation of Rishi Sunak.
- During the COVID-19 pandemic he was Minister for COVID Vaccine Deployment. He had previously served as the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Business and Industry between 2019 and 2020, and for Children and Families between 2018 and 2019.
- Zahawi supported Brexit in the 2016 EU referendum and backed Dominic Raab, and later Boris Johnson, in the 2019 Conservative Party leadership election.
- In 2013 Zahawi was appointed to the prime minister's policy board with special responsibility for business and the economy. In November 2015 Zahawi was appointed by David Cameron as the Prime Minister's Apprenticeship Adviser where he spoke of his ambition for vocational training to enjoy the same parity of esteem as academic routes.
- Zahawi co-founded political polling and market research company YouGov in 2000, where he served as Chief Executive until his election to parliament in 2010, becoming the first Kurdish Iraqi to be elected to the British House of Commons.
- In 1994 Zahawi became a Conservative Councillor in Wandsworth, south London, and three years later unsuccessfully stood for Parliament in Erith and Thamesmead.
- Arriving in the UK from Iraq as a child, Zahawi's Kurdish family fled Baghdad following Saddam Hussein's ascent to power in 1978. He grew up in Sussex and studied chemical engineering at University College London.

Other changes made in the reshuffle

- Kit Malthouse has replaced Steve Barclay as Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and Chief of Staff to the Prime Minister.
- Greg Clarke has replaced Michael Gove as Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities and Minister for Intergovernmental Relations.
- James Cleverly replaces Michelle Donelan, who resigned shortly after replacing Nadhim Zahawi as Secretary of State for Education.
- Peter Bone has been appointed Deputy Leader of the House of Commons.

A full list of government ministers is available here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/ministers>

Conservative Party leadership contest

The 1922 committee¹ announced the rules on how the Conservative Party leadership contest will proceed. Nominations of candidates will open and close at 6pm on 12 July.

Ballots of MPs will be held prior to Parliamentary recess on 21 July. Candidates will be required to submit a nomination including a proposer, a seconder and eighteen other MPs supporting their candidacy.² The first ballot will take place on 13 July from 13:10 to 15:30, with a result being announced later that day. After the first ballot, any candidate receiving less than thirty votes will be eliminated. If the ballot threshold is met by all candidates, then the candidate with the lowest number of votes will be eliminated. The ballot will conclude when two candidates are remaining. The ballot of Party members will then commence with the result announced on 5 September. There may be pressure on the candidate with the least number of votes to stand down which could mean that a new Prime Minister is announced before the September deadline.

Who could be the next Prime Minister?

Ten Conservative MPs have put themselves forward so far. Former Chancellor Rishi Sunak, Attorney General Suella Braverman, former Equalities Minister Kemi Badenoch and Foreign Affairs Committee Chair Tom Tugendhat have all launched leadership challenges. Also in the race are two former health secretaries – Sajid Javid and Jeremy Hunt – and current Chancellor Nadhim Zahawi. Other contenders

¹ The 1922 committee is a committee of all backbench Conservative MPs that meets weekly when the Commons is sitting. Its chair, usually a senior MP, is elected by committee members and has considerable influence within the Parliamentary Party. The committee was set up following an initiative by new Conservative MPs elected at the 1922 general election to facilitate cooperation within the party.

² A Leader resigning from the Leadership of the Party is not eligible for re-nomination in the consequent Leadership election.

include International Trade Minister Penny Mordaunt, Foreign Secretary Liz Truss and former UK Trade Envoy Rehman Chishti.

Nadhim Zahawi, Rishi Sunak, Penny Mordaunt and Tom Tugendhat are all said to have secured the necessary number of nominations. Grant Shapps pulled out of the race on Tuesday 12 July, and Defence Secretary Ben Wallace ruled himself out at the weekend.

Press statement

Responding to the appointment of the Rt Hon Steve Barclay MP as the new health and social care secretary, the interim chief executive of NHS Providers, Saffron Cordery, said:

"Trust leaders will welcome the rapid appointment of Steve Barclay as the new secretary of state for health and social care.

"He faces several big and pressing challenges.

"COVID continues to cast a long shadow over the NHS, with trust leaders bracing themselves for a bumpy ride over the coming months as they grapple with new and unpredictable variants alongside seasonal flu and wider winter pressures.

"NHS staff are working flat out to reduce waiting lists and to ramp up activity across all parts of the health system. But the fact remains that nearly 6.5million are people waiting for treatment, with numbers expected to rise further still. Backlogs of care impact all parts of the NHS, including mental health, community and ambulance services.

"There is a very real risk that COVID could once again throw the NHS' efforts to tackle these substantial backlogs off course.

"Close attention will be paid to how the new health and social care secretary addresses several major challenges over the coming weeks.

"Top of his in-tray must be the serious workforce shortages right across the NHS, with over 105,000 vacancies across the service and the forthcoming NHS pay award, which will be made against the backdrop of a soaring cost of living crisis.

“The government’s much vaunted New Hospitals Programme which promises to give the NHS long overdue needed capital investment to benefit patients and the quality of care has also come under scrutiny.

“And more support must be provided for an underfunded and overstretched social care system to help to ease mounting pressure across the whole health and care system.”