

## Briefing following the government reshuffle – November 2023

Prime Minister Rishi Sunak has carried out a wide-ranging reshuffle of the Cabinet and ministerial team. Key appointments include Victoria Atkins as Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, replacing Steve Barclay, who moved to the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. Two new ministers also join the health and social care team, with Andrew Stephenson and Andrea Leadsom replacing Will Quince and Neil O'Brien.

Other notable changes include James Cleverly replacing Suella Braverman as Home Secretary and former prime minister David Cameron being appointed Foreign Secretary and made a life peer in order to take up the role.

This briefing sets out:

1. Biographies of the new health and social care ministers
2. Other key appointments from a health and social care perspective
3. A list of Cabinet ministers and those attending Cabinet

NHS Providers has [written](#) to the new secretary of state for health and social care setting out the priorities for the sector, and [our response to her appointment](#) is also on our website.

### 1. Biographies of the new health and social care ministers



[Victoria Atkins MP, Secretary of State for Health and Social Care](#)

*Conservative MP for Louth and Horncastle since May 2015, re-elected in 2019 with a 28,868 majority.*

### **Portfolio**

The Secretary of State is responsible for the work of the Department of Health and Social Care, including:

- overall financial control and oversight of NHS delivery and performance
- oversight of social care policy

### **Parliamentary career**

- Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Home Office (Nov 2017-Sept 21)
- Minister for Women, Government Equalities Office (Jan 18-Feb 20)
- Minister of State, Ministry of Justice (Sept 21-July 22)
- Minister for Afghan Resettlement, Ministry of Justice (Sept 21-Mar 22)
- Financial Secretary, HM Treasury (Oct 22-Nov 23)

### **Previous Career**

- Barrister, criminal law specialist since 1998

## **Rt Hon Andrew Stephenson MP, Minister for Health and Secondary Care**

*Conservative MP for Pendle since May 2010, re-elected in 2019 with a 6,186 majority.*

### **Portfolio**

The Minister for Health and Secondary Care is responsible for leading on NHS secondary care, elective care recovery, major diseases, rare diseases, screening, long-term conditions, NHS workforce, research, life sciences, medicines and medicines regulation, parliamentary business, and international, devolved administrations, crown dependencies and overseas territories. They are also responsible for the sponsorship of NICE, MHRA, HRA and NHS England.

### **Parliamentary Career**

- Parliamentary Private Secretary to Boris Johnson, Secretary of State (FCO) (Jul 2016-Jun 17)
- Assistant Whip, HM Treasury (Jun 17-Jan 18)
- Lord Commissioner, HM Treasury (Jan 18-Jul 18)
- Vice Chamberlain (Whip), HM Household (Jul 18-Apr 19)
- Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department for Business Energy and Industrial Strategy (Apr 19-Jul 19)
- Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office (Jul 19-Feb 20)
- Minister of State, Department for Transport (Feb 20-Jul 22)
- Minister without Portfolio, Cabinet Office (Jul 22-Sept 22)

- Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (Sept 22-Oct 22)
- Government Whip, Lord Commissioner of HM Treasury (Oct 22-Nov 23)

#### Previous Career

- Insurance broker (later Partner), Stephenson and Threader (2002-2010)

## Rt Hon Dame Andrea Leadsom MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State (Minister for Public Health, Start of Life and Primary Care)

*Conservative MP for South Northamptonshire since May 2010, re-elected in 2019 with a 27,761 majority.*

#### Portfolio

The Minister for Public Health, Start of Life and Primary care is responsible for leading on primary care, blood, transplant and organs, and the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID). They are also responsible for the sponsorship of NHS Blood and Transplant (NHSBT) and Food Standard Agency (FSA).

#### Parliamentary career

- Economic Secretary, HM Treasury (Apr 2014-15)
- Minister of State, Department of Energy and Climate Change (May 15-Jul 16)
- Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Jul 16-Jun 17)
- Lord President of the Council and Leader of the House of Commons (Jun 17-May 19)
- Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (Jul 19-Feb 20)
- Treasury Committee member (Nov 22-Nov 23)

#### Previous Career

- Various roles, BZW (1987-1991)
- Financial Institutions Director, Barclays Bank (1991-1997)
- Managing Director, De Putron (1997-1999)
- Senior Investment Officer and Head of Corporate Governance, Invesco Perpetual (1999-2009)

## 2. Other key appointments from a health and care perspective

### Laura Trott MP, Chief Secretary to the Treasury

*Conservative MP for Sevenoaks since December 20199 with a 20,818 majority.*

#### Portfolio

The Chief Secretary to the Treasury is responsible public expenditure including: spending reviews and strategic planning, public sector pay and pensions, efficiency and value for money in public service, procurement, capital investment.

### Parliamentary career

- Parliamentary Under-Secretary, Department for Work and Pensions (Oct 23-Nov 23)
- Member, Health and Social Care Committee (Mar 20-Nov 22)
- Committee member, Neonatal Care (Leave and Pay) Bill (Jul 22- Sept 22)

### Previous career

Before joining Parliament Laura Trott worked in David Cameron’s No.10 as head of education and family policy in the policy unit and later as director of strategic communications.

## 3. Full list of Cabinet ministers and those attending Cabinet

Prime Minister	Rishi Sunak
Deputy Prime Minister, Secretary of State in the Cabinet Office, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster	Oliver Dowden
Chancellor of the Exchequer, Second Lord of the Treasury	Jeremy Hunt
Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs	David Cameron
Home Secretary	James Cleverly
Secretary of State for Defence	Grant Shapps
Secretary of State for Justice, Lord Chancellor	Alex Chalk
Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero	Claire Coutinho
Secretary of State for Science, Innovation and Technology	Michelle Donelan
Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities Minister for Intergovernmental Relations	Michael Gove
Secretary of State for Health and Social Care	Victoria Atkins
Leader of the House of Commons	Penny Mordaunt

Leader of the House of Lords	The Lord True
Secretary of State for Business and Trade, President of the Board of Trade, Minister for Women and Equalities	Kemi Badenoch
Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs	Steve Barclay
Secretary of State for Work and Pensions	Mel Stride
Secretary of State for Education	Gillian Keegan
Secretary of State for Transport	Mark Harper
Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport	Lucy Frazer
Minister without Portfolio, Chair of Conservative Party	Richard Holden
Secretary of State for Northern Ireland	Chris Heaton-Harris
Secretary of State for Scotland	Alister Jack
Secretary of State for Wales	David Davies
Government Chief Whip, Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasury	Simon Hart
Chief Secretary to the Treasury	Laura Trott
Attorney General for England and Wales, Advocate General for Northern Ireland	Victoria Prentis
Minister for the Cabinet Office, Paymaster General	John Glen
Minister of State for Immigration	Robert Jenrick
Minister of State for Security	Tom Tugendhat

Minister of State for Development and Africa	Andrew Mitchell
Minister of State for Veterans' Affairs	Johnny Mercer
Minister without Portfolio in the Cabinet Office	Esther McVey