



Cabinet Office

Annual Report on Special Advisers 2019

20 December 2019



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Presented to Parliament pursuant to paragraphs 1 and 4 of section 16 of the Constitutional Reform and Governance Act 2010

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Special Advisers

Special advisers are temporary civil servants appointed to add a political dimension to the advice and assistance available to Ministers. In doing so they reinforce the political impartiality of the permanent Civil Service by distinguishing the source of political advice and support.

In accordance with section 16 of the Constitutional Reform and Governance Act 2010, the Cabinet Office publishes an annual report containing the number and costs of special advisers. This information is presented below.

The Cabinet Office also routinely publishes the names of all special advisers along with information on salaries. In accordance with the Information Commissioner's Office guidance on publishing personal data, the salaries of those special advisers earning salaries equivalent to senior civil servants (£70,000 or more) are given in bands of £5,000.

Special adviser pay bands are also published.

Number of special advisers

As at 5 November 2019, there were 108.4 (full time equivalent) special advisers working across the whole of government. The total Civil Service has 413,910 (full time equivalent) civil servants as at 31 March 2019.¹

Cost of special advisers

The special adviser costs for the financial year 1 April 2018 – 31 March 2019 were £9.6 million. Special advisers represent an estimated 0.06 per cent of the total Civil Service pay bill.²

	1 April 2018 - 31 March 2019	1 April 2017 - 31 March 2018
Salary costs	£7.1m	£6.6m
National Insurance Contributions	£0.9m	£0.8m
Pension Contributions	£1.6m	£1.5m
Total Cost	£9.6m	£8.9m

¹ Information taken from the Civil Service Statistics 2019 Statistical Bulletin - https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/836373/Statistical-bulletin-Civil-Service-Statistics-2019-V2.pdf

² This is based on a Cabinet Office estimate of the cost of staff in the Civil Service as at March 2019

A special adviser's appointment automatically ends when their appointing Minister ceases to hold the ministerial office in relation to which the adviser was appointed to assist, or if earlier, immediately following a parliamentary general election. In accordance with section 14 of the *Model Contract for Special Advisers*, a special adviser is entitled to receive a severance payment in these circumstances. Between 1 April 2018 and 31 March 2019, £208,000 was paid in severance to special advisers who left Government (net of any repayments made as a result of re-appointments).

Short money

In 2018-19, opposition parties received £9.8 million of Short Money and £1.0 million of Cranborne Money. Returns on Short Money spending on political staff are published on parliament.uk³

Special adviser pay bands

PB1 - £40,500 - £60,500

PB2 - £57,000 - £78,000

PB3 - £73,000 - £102,000

PB4 - £96,000 - £145,000

³ <https://www.parliament.uk/site-information/foi/transparency-publications/hoc-transparency-publications/financial-information/financial-assistance-to-opposition-parties/>

List of special advisers

Appointing Minister	Special Adviser	Pay Band	Salary Band (If £70,000 or above)
The Prime Minister	Lee Cain	4	£140,000-£145,000
	Dominic Cummings	4	£95,000-£99,999
	Nikki Da Costa	4	£125,000-£129,999
	David Frost	4	£125,000-£129,999
	Andrew Griffith	4	£125,000-£129,999
	Oliver Lewis	4	£95,000-£99,999
	Sir Ed Lister	4	£140,000-£145,000
	Munira Mirza	4	£140,000-£145,000
	John Bew	3	£85,000-£89,999
	Liam Booth-Smith	3	£85,000-£89,999
	Chris Brannigan	3	£85,000-£89,999
	Ben Gascoigne	3	£85,000-£89,999
	Blair Gibbs	3	£80,000-£84,999
	Andrew Gilligan	3	£95,000-£99,999
	Jonathan Hellewell	3	£75,000-£79,999
	Lucia Hodgson	3	£75,000-£79,999
	Tom Iven	3	£85,000-£89,999
	Samuel Kasumu	3	£70,000-£74,999
	Ross Kempzell	3	£70,000-£74,999
	Katie Lam	3	£70,000-£74,999
	Douglas McNeill	3	£95,000-£99,999
	Tim Montgomerie	3	£80,000-£84,999
Elena Narozanski	3	£75,000-£79,999	
Robert Oxley	3	£85,000-£89,999	

	Meg Powell-Chandler	3	£85,000-£89,999
	Jean-Andre Prager	3	£70,000-£74,999
	Sam Richards	3	£70,000-£74,999
	Elliot Roy	3	£70,000-£74,999
	James Sproule	3	£75,000-£79,999
	Will Warr	3	£80,000-£84,999
	Cleo Watson	3	£75,000-£79,000
	Sheridan Westlake	3	£85,000-£89,999
	James Wild	3	£85,000-£89,999
	Shelley Williams-Walker	3	£75,000-£79,999
	Ross Allan	2	
	Rosie Bate-Williams	2	
	Declan Lyons	2	
	Marcus Natale	2	
	Damon Poole	2	
	Chloe Sarfaty ⁴	2	
	Nick Vaughan	2	
	Rupert Yorke	2	£70,000-£74,999
	Christopher James	1	
	Chloe Westley	1	
Chancellor of the Exchequer	Mats Persson	4	£120,000-£124,999
	Sam Coates	3	£80,000-£84,999
	James Hedgeland	2	
	Adam Memon	2	

⁴ Chloe Sarfarty works part time.

	Jennifer Powell	2	
	Tim Sculthorpe	2	
Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, First Secretary of State	Beth Armstrong	3	£80,000-£84,999
	Simon Finkelstein	2	
	Simon Jupp	2	
	Christina Robinson ⁵	2	
Secretary of State for the Home Department	James Starkie	3	£80,000-£84,999
	Hannah Guerin	2	
	Charlotte Miller	2	
	Alexander Wild	2	
Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster	Henry Cook	3	£80,000-£84,999
	Henry Newman	3	£80,000-£84,999
	Josh Grimstone	2	
	Charles Rowley	2	
Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice	Peter Cardwell	2	
	Rajiv Shah	2	
Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union	Stephanie Lis	2	
	Gareth Milner	2	
	Gavin Rice	2	
Secretary of State for Defence	Lynn Davidson	3	£80,000-£84,999
Secretary of State for Health and Social Care	Emma Dean	2	
	Allan Nixon	2	
	Jamie Njoku-Goodwin	2	
Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy	Samantha Magnus	2	
	Marc Pooler	2	

⁵ Christina Robinson works part time and is on maternity leave.

Secretary of State for International Trade and President of the Board of Trade, Minister for Women and Equalities	James Caldecourt	2	
	Nerissa Chesterfield	2	
	Sophie Jarvis	2	
Secretary of State for Work and Pensions	Alex Hitchcock	2	
	Rhiannon Padley	2	
Secretary of State for Education	Richard Holden	2	
	Katherine Howell	2	
Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs	Saratha Rajeswaran	2	£70,000-£74,999
	Robert Rams	2	£70,000-£74,999
Secretary of State for Housing Communities and Local Government	Olivia Oates	2	
	Thomas Kennedy	1	
Secretary of State for Transport	Emma Barr	2	
	Rupert Oldham-Reid	2	
Secretary of State for Northern Ireland	Ross Easton	2	
	Lilah Howson-Smith	2	
Secretary of State for Scotland	Magnus Gardham	2	
	William Saunders	2	
Secretary of State for Wales	Geraint Evans	2	
Leader of the House of Lords, Lords Privy Seal	Annabelle Eyre	3	£80,000-£84,999
	Hannah Ellis	1	
	Yasmin Kalhori	1	
	James Price	1	
Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport	Sophia True	2	
Secretary of State for International Development	Natasha Adkins	2	
	Will Holloway	2	£70,000-£74,999

Minister Without Portfolio for the Cabinet Office	Jessica Prestidge	1	
Chief Secretary to the Treasury	Claire Coutinho	2	£70,000-£74,999
Leader of the House of Commons, Lord President of the Council	Beatrice Timpson	2	
	Hugh Bennett	1	
Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasury (Chief Whip)	Sophie Bolsover	2	
	Simon Burton	2	£75,000-£79,999
Paymaster General and Minister for the Cabinet Office	Mike Crowhurst	2	
	Lucy Noakes	2	£70,000-£74,999
Minister of State (Minister for the Northern Powerhouse and Local Growth)	Cameron Brown	2	
Minister of State for Housing	Daniel El-Gamry	2	
Minister of State for Security	Michael Young	2	