

Resignation Peerages April 2025

The King has been graciously pleased to signify His intention of conferring Peerages of the United Kingdom for Life upon the undermentioned:

Nominations from the former Prime Minister of the United Kingdom

Peerages

The Rt Hon Michael Gove

Former Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities.

The Rt Hon Mark Harper

Former Secretary of State for Transport.

The Rt Hon Simon Hart

Former Chief Whip of the House of Commons.

The Rt Hon Sir Alister William Jack KBE DL

Former Secretary of State for Scotland.

Stephen Massey

Former Chief Executive Officer of the Conservative Party.

The Rt Hon Victoria Prentis KC

Former Attorney General.

Eleanor Shawcross (Wolfson)

Former Head of the No 10 Policy Unit.

The Prime Minister's Resignation Honours are granted by His Majesty The King at the request of an outgoing Prime Minister.

These honours and peerages follow the resignation of the former Prime Minister The Rt Hon Rishi Sunak MP.

Citations by the former Prime Minister

Rt Hon Michael Gove

Michael Gove was Levelling Up Secretary from 2022 to 2024. In that role, he introduced greater devolution across England, resolved the building safety crisis and secured investment in innovation across the UK. Prior to that, Michael had served in four other departments. As Education Secretary he introduced changes to the English school system which have resulted in a sustained improvement in performance in world rankings in literacy, mathematics and science. As Justice Secretary he championed rehabilitation, greater autonomy for prison governors and improved efficiency in our courts. As Environment Secretary he reformed farm subsidies to ensure enhanced investment in nature and other public goods, put our fishing industry on a sustainable basis and set the path for restoration of natural wildlife habitats. As Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster he co-ordinated the response of public services to Covid and strengthened the governance of the United Kingdom.

Rt Hon Mark Harper

Mark Harper was Secretary of State for Transport from 2022 to 2024. In that role, he shifted the department's priorities to reflect the transport needs of people across the United Kingdom. He also worked to make the UK a global leader in the future of transport, delivering the 2024 Automated Vehicles Act and progress on sustainable aviation and shipping.

Mark was the MP for the Forest of Dean for 19 years. During his time in the House of Commons, Mark served as government chief whip from 2015 to 2016 and as Minister for Immigration, Minister for Disabled People and Minister for Political and Constitutional Reform. During the Covid Pandemic he led the Covid Recovery Group of backbenchers, which played an important role in holding the Government to account and testing Ministerial decisions taken and the evidence underpinning them.

Mark is a Chartered Accountant.

Rt Hon Simon Hart

Simon Hart was the government Chief Whip from 2022 to 2024. Previously, he had served as Secretary of State for Wales and as Minister for Implementation in the Cabinet Office. Simon was elected Conservative MP for Carmarthen West & South Pembrokeshire in May 2010 and held the seat until July 2024.

Before his appointment as a Minister, Simon was a member of the Committee on Standards in Public Life, and a number of Select committees including Welsh Affairs, EFRA, Political & Constitutional Reform and DCMS.

Simon worked as a Chartered Surveyor in Carmarthen and Haverfordwest and served with the Territorial Army for seven years in the Royal Gloucestershire Hussars (part of the Royal Wessex Yeomanry). He is the current Honorary Colonel of the Royal Wessex Yeomanry. Before being elected as an MP he was Chief Executive of the Countryside Alliance and then Chairman of the same organisation.

Rt Hon Sir Alister Jack

Sir Alister Jack was the Secretary of State for Scotland from July 2019 to July 2024 and was the Scottish Conservative and Unionist Member of Parliament for Dumfries and Galloway 2017-2024. As Secretary of State for Scotland, Alister worked to ensure that devolution worked better for the people of Scotland and the United Kingdom. He oversaw multiple city deals between Scottish cities and the UK and Scottish governments as well as the creation of two freeports in Scotland. He was the first Secretary of State to issue a Section 35 order, in response to the Gender Recognition Reform bill. This constitutionally significant decision was upheld by the Supreme Court.

Before being elected as an MP, Alister set up several successful self-storage businesses. He now farms near Dumfries.

Alister is the former Chairman of the River Annan and District Salmon Fishery Board, the River Annan Trust, Wildlife Estates Scotland, and Fisheries Management Scotland.

Stephen Massey

Stephen Massey was Chief Executive of the Conservative Party from 2022 to 2024. In that role, he oversaw the running of the party and its headquarters in both London and Leeds. Before that, he was chair of Conservative Friends of Israel. Stephen has been a member of the party since 1974, and an active member of the voluntary party since being chairman of the Oxford University Conservative Association in 1978.

Stephen's business career began in 1981 at Prudential Bache International where he was Chairman and CEO from 1994-2003. He went on to found Eden Financial Ltd where he was executive chairman. He has been chairman of Canaccord Genuity's UK businesses since 2014.

Stephen was on the board of the Urban Regeneration Agency from 1992 to 1997. He is a long-standing member of the Investment Advisory Board of Hertford College, Oxford. Stephen is an active supporter of education, mental health and Jewish charities.

Rt Hon Victoria Prentis KC

Victoria Prentis was Attorney General for England and Wales from October 2022 to July 2024. Before this, Victoria was the Minister of State at DWP (Minister for Work and Welfare) and DEFRA (Minister for Farming, Fisheries and Food). She was responsible for food during the pandemic. She steered through the legislation which made the greatest environmental changes to farming for seventy years. She was the MP for her hometown of Banbury between 2015-2024.

Called to the Bar in 1995, she practised at the Treasury Solicitor's Department (now the Government Legal Department) from 1997 to 2014. She took a number of cases to the Supreme Court and represented parties in public inquires. She has worked on many of the major judicial review cases of the last thirty years.

Victoria is currently working with Advocates for International Development to help train Ukrainian lawyers to prosecute war crimes cases.

Eleanor Shawcross

Eleanor Shawcross was Head of the No 10 Policy Unit. She oversaw all domestic policy work, including preparations for Budgets. She led on the smoking ban, expanding the school curriculum for 16–19-year-olds, and the NHS recovery plans.

As an adviser at HMT, Eleanor was central to the government's efforts to support people through the energy price spike caused by Putin's invasion of Ukraine.

Prior to this, Eleanor was a Non-Executive Director at the Department of Work and Pensions. Eleanor spent six years at HM Treasury 2010 – 2016 serving on the Council of Economic Advisers.

Eleanor has also worked for the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the Blavatnik School of Government, University of Oxford.

Eleanor focuses her voluntary work on charities and organisations supporting children, spending several years as a Trustee for the charities BookTrust and COSMIC, and serving as a governor at her local school.