



SPICe Fact Sheet

Duilleagan Fiosrachaidh SPICe

14 June 2023

Cumulative list of Ministers and Law Officers: Session 6

The Scottish Government is made up of Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers, who are MSPs chosen by the First Minister. It also includes 2 Law Officers (the Lord Advocate and the Solicitor General for Scotland) who do not need to be MSPs.

This Fact Sheet provides a list of all Scottish Ministers and Law Officers, by cabinet, from the beginning of Session 6.

Abbreviations used:

SNP	Scottish National Party
QC	Queen's Counsel
KC	King's Counsel

First Cabinet

(19 May 2021 – 29 March 2023)

First Minister

Nicola Sturgeon (SNP) (18 May 2021 – 28 March 2023)

Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Covid Recovery (also covering the Finance and Economy portfolio from 16 July 2022 due to Kate Forbes's maternity leave)

John Swinney (SNP) (18 May 2021 – 28 March 2023)

Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills

Shirley-Anne Somerville (SNP) (19 May 2021 – 29 March 2023)

Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care

Humza Yousaf (SNP) (19 May 2021 – 28 March 2023)

Cabinet Secretary for Finance and the Economy

Kate Forbes (SNP) (19 May 2021 – 28 March 2023)

Currently on maternity leave from 16 July 2022 (portfolio being covered by John Swinney MSP)

Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Veterans

Keith Brown (SNP) (20 May 2021 – 29 March 2023)

Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs and Islands

Mairi Gougeon (SNP) (20 May 2021 – 29 March 2023)

Cabinet Secretary for the Constitution, External Affairs and Culture

Angus Robertson (SNP) (20 May 2021 – to date)

Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero, Energy and Transport

Michael Matheson (SNP) (19 May 2021 – 29 March 2023)

Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, Housing and Local Government

Shona Robison (SNP) (20 May 2021 – 29 March 2023)

Minister for Drugs Policy

Angela Constance (SNP) (19 May 2021 – 29 March 2023)

Minister for Parliamentary Business

George Adam (SNP) (20 May 2021 – 29 March 2023)

Minister for Just Transition, Employment and Fair Work

Richard Lochhead (SNP) (19 May 2021 – 29 March 2023)

Minister for Business, Trade, Tourism and Enterprise

Ivan McKee (SNP) (19 May 2021 – 29 March 2023)

Minister for Public Finance, Planning and Community Wealth

Tom Arthur (SNP) (20 May 2021 – 29 March 2023)

Minister for Public Health, Women's Health and Sport

Maree Todd (SNP) (19 May 2021 – 29 March 2023)

Minister for Mental Wellbeing and Social Care

Kevin Stewart (SNP) (19 May 2021 – 29 March 2023)

Minister for Children and Young People

Clare Haughey (SNP) (19 May 2021 – 29 March 2023)

Minister for Higher Education and Further Education, Youth Employment and Training

Jamie Hepburn (SNP) (19 May 2021 – 29 March 2023)

Minister for Environment and Land Reform

Mairi McAllan (SNP) (20 May 2021 – 29 March 2023)

Job title changed from Minister for Environment, Biodiversity and Land Reform on 31 August 2021.

Minister for Transport

Graeme Dey (SNP) (19 May 2021 – 24 January 2022)

Jenny Gilruth (SNP) (24 January 2022 – 29 March 2023)

Minister for Community Safety

Ash Regan (SNP) (19 May 2021 – 27 October 2022)

Name changed from Ash Denham to Ash Regan on 13 October 2021.

Elena Whitham (SNP) (3 November 2022 – 29 March 2023)

Minister for Equalities and Older People

Christina McKelvie (SNP) (19 May 2021 – 29 March 2023)

Minister for Social Security and Local Government

Ben MacPherson (SNP) (19 May 2021 – 29 March 2023)

Minister for Culture, Europe and International Development and Minister with special responsibility for Refugees from Ukraine

Jenny Gilruth (SNP) (19 May 2021 – 24 January 2022)

Neil Gray (SNP) (25 January 2022- 29 March 2023)

Job title changed from Minister for Culture, Europe and International Development on 11 March 2022.

Minister for Zero Carbon Buildings, Active Travel and Tenants' Rights

Patrick Harvie (Green) (31 August 2021- to date)

Minister for Green Skills, Circular Economy and Biodiversity

Lorna Slater (Green) (31 August 2021- to date)

Second Cabinet

(29 March 2023- to date)

First Minister

Humza Yousaf (SNP) (28 March 2023-to date)

Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance

Shona Robison (SNP) (29 March 2023- to date)

Cabinet Secretary for NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care

Michael Matheson (SNP) (29 March 2023- to date)

Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills

Jenny Gilruth (SNP) (30 March 2023- to date)

Cabinet Secretary for Transport, Net Zero and Just Transition

Mairi McAllan (SNP) (30 March 2023- to date)

Job title changed from Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Just Transition on 13 June 2023

Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work and Energy

Neil Gray (SNP) (30 March 2023- to date)

Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands

Mairi Gougeon (SNP) (29 March 2023- to date)

Cabinet Secretary for the Constitution, External Affairs and Culture

Angus Robertson (SNP) (20 May 2021- to date)

Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice

Shirley-Anne Somerville (SNP) (29 March 2023- to date)

Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs

Angela Constance (SNP) (30 March 2023-to date)

Minister for Drugs and Alcohol Policy

Elena Whitham (SNP) (29 March 2023- to date)

Minister for Independence

Jamie Hepburn (SNP) (29 March 2023- to date)

Minister for Cabinet and Parliamentary Business

George Adam (SNP) (29 March 2023- to date)

Minister for Community Wealth and Public Finance

Tom Arthur (SNP) (29 March 2023- to date)

Minister for Local Government Empowerment and Planning

Joe FitzPatrick (SNP) (30 March 2023- to date)

Minister for Public Health and Women's Health

Jenni Minto (SNP) (30 March 2023- to date)

Minister for Social Care, Mental Wellbeing and Sport

Maree Todd (SNP) (29 March 2023- to date)

Minister for Children, Young People and Keeping the Promise

Natalie Don (SNP) (30 March 2023- to date)

Minister for Higher and Further Education and Minister for Veterans

Graeme Dey (SNP) (30 March 2023- to date)

Minister for Transport

Kevin Stewart (SNP) (29 March 2023- 6 June 2023)

Fiona Hyslop (SNP) (13 June 2023- to date)

Minister for Small Business, Innovation, Tourism and Trade

Richard Lochhead (SNP) (29 March 2023- to date)

Job title changed from Minister for Small Business, Innovation and Trade on 13 June 2023.

Minister for Energy and the Environment

Gillian Martin (SNP) (30 March 2023- to date)

Job title changed from Minister for Energy on 13 June 2023.

Minister for Culture, Europe and International Development

Christina McKelvie (SNP) (29 March 2023- to date)

Minister for Equalities, Migration and Refugees

Emma Roddick (SNP) (30 March 2023- to date)

Minister for Housing

Paul McLennan (SNP) (30 March 2023- to date)

Minister for Victims and Community Safety

Siobhian Brown (SNP) (30 March 2023- to date)

Minister for Green Skills, Circular Economy and Biodiversity

Lorna Slater (Green) (31 August 2021- to date)

Minister for Zero Carbon Buildings, Active Travel and Tenants' Rights

Patrick Harvie (Green) (31 August 2021- to date)

Law Officers

Lord Advocate

James Wolffe QC (1 June 2016 – 17 June 2021)

Dorothy Bain KC (17 June 2021- to date) Ruth Charteris KC (17 June 2021 – to date)

Solicitor General

Alison Di Rollo (1 June 2016 – 17 June 2021)

Ruth Charteris KC (17 June 2021 – to date)

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