



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

SPICe

The Information Centre  
An t-Ionad Fiosrachaidh

# SPICe Fact Sheet

## Duilleagan Fiosrachaidh SPICe

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### **Cumulative list of Ministers and Law Officers: Session 6**

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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.

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Party	Abbreviation
Alba Party	Alba
Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party	Con
Scottish Green Party	Green
Scottish Labour	Lab
Scottish Liberal Democrats	LD
Scottish National Party	SNP
Independent MSPs	Ind
No Party Affiliation	NPA
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 – 29 March 2023)

### 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, Biodiversity and Land Reform**

Mairi McAllan (SNP) (20 May 2021 – 31 August 2021)

Job title changed to Minister for Environment and Land Reform on 31 August 2021.

### **Minister for Environment and Land Reform**

Mairi McAllan (SNP) (21 August 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**

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

Neil Gray (SNP) (25 January 2022- 11 March 2022)

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

Neil Gray (SNP) (11 March 2022- 29 March 2023)

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

Patrick Harvie (Green) (from 31 August 2021)

**Minister for Green Skills, Circular Economy and Biodiversity**

Lorna Slater (Green) (from 31 August 2021)

**Second Cabinet**

(29 March 2023- 8 February 2024)

**First Minister**

Humza Yousaf (SNP) (from 28 March 2023)

**Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance**

Shona Robison (SNP)

Included temporary responsibility for Alcohol Policy matters from 23 January 2024, to cover the portfolio of the Minister for Drugs and Alcohol Policy.

**Cabinet Secretary for NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care**

Michael Matheson (SNP)

Included temporary responsibility for Minimum Unit Pricing of alcohol from 23 January 2024, to cover the portfolio of the Minister for Drugs and Alcohol Policy.

**Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills**

Jenny Gilruth (SNP) (from 30 March 2023)

**Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Just Transition**

Mairi McAllan (SNP) (from 30 March 2023 – 13 June 2023)

Job title changed to Cabinet Secretary for Transport, Net Zero and Just Transition on 13 June 2023

**Cabinet Secretary for Transport, Net Zero and Just Transition**

Mairi McAllan (SNP) (from 13 June 2023)

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- 8 February 2024)

**Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands**

Mairi Gougeon (SNP)

**Cabinet Secretary for the Constitution, External Affairs and Culture**

Angus Robertson (SNP) (from 20 May 2021)

### **Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice**

Shirley-Anne Somerville (SNP)

### **Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs**

Angela Constance (SNP) (from 30 March 2023)

Included temporary responsibility for Drug Policy matters from 23 January 2024, to cover the portfolio of the Minister for Drugs and Alcohol Policy. This was subject to any material or presentational conflicts arising with her Justice portfolio interests, in which case the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance would cover the business in question.

### **Minister for Drugs and Alcohol Policy**

Elena Whitham (SNP) (29 March 2023- 6 February 2024)

Elena Whitham took a temporary leave of absence from 23 January 2024 and resigned on 6 February 2024.

### **Minister for Independence**

Jamie Hepburn (SNP)

### **Minister for Parliamentary Business**

George Adam (SNP)

### **Minister for Community Wealth and Public Finance**

Tom Arthur (SNP)

### **Minister for Local Government Empowerment and Planning**

Joe FitzPatrick (SNP) (from 30 March 2023)

### **Minister for Public Health and Women's Health**

Jenni Minto (SNP) (from 30 March 2023)

### **Minister for Social Care, Mental Wellbeing and Sport**

Maree Todd (SNP)

### **Minister for Children, Young People and Keeping the Promise**

Natalie Don (SNP) (from 30 March 2023)

### **Minister for Higher and Further Education and Minister for Veterans**

Graeme Dey (SNP) (from 30 March 2023)

### **Minister for Transport**

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

Fiona Hyslop (SNP) (from 13 June 2023- 20 February 2024)

### **Minister for Small Business, Innovation, Tourism and Trade**

Richard Lochhead (SNP)

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

### **Minister for Energy and the Environment**

Gillian Martin (SNP) (from 30 March 2023)

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

## **Minister for Culture, Europe and International Development**

Christina McKelvie (SNP)

## **Minister for Equalities, Migration and Refugees**

Emma Roddick (SNP) (from 30 March 2023)

## **Minister for Housing**

Paul McLennan (SNP) (from 30 March 2023)

## **Minister for Victims and Community Safety**

Siobhian Brown (SNP) (from 30 March 2023)

## **Minister for Green Skills, Circular Economy and Biodiversity**

Lorna Slater (Green)

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

Patrick Harvie (Green)

## **Law Officers**

### **Lord Advocate**

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

Dorothy Bain KC (from 17 June 2021)

### **Solicitor General**

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

Ruth Charteris KC (from 17 June 2021)

## **Third Cabinet**

(8 February 2024- to date)

### **First Minister**

Humza Yousaf (SNP)

### **Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance**

Shona Robison (SNP)

### **Cabinet Secretary for NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care**

Neil Gray (SNP) (from 8 February 2024)

### **Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills**

Jenny Gilruth (SNP)

### **Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Net Zero and Energy**

Mairi McAllan (SNP) (from 8 February 2024)

### **Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands**

Mairi Gougeon (SNP)

### **Cabinet Secretary for the Constitution, External Affairs and Culture**

Angus Robertson (SNP)

**Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice**

Shirley-Anne Somerville (SNP)

**Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs**

Angela Constance (SNP)

**Cabinet Secretary for Transport**

Fiona Hyslop (SNP) (from 20 February 2024)

**Minister for Agriculture and Connectivity**

Jim Fairlie (SNP) (from 20 February 2024)

**Minister for Culture, Europe and International Development**

Kaukab Stewart (SNP) (from 20 February 2024)

**Minister for Drugs and Alcohol Policy**

Christina McKelvie (SNP)

**Minister for Independence**

Jamie Hepburn (SNP)

**Minister for Cabinet and Parliamentary Business**

George Adam (SNP)

**Minister for Community Wealth and Public Finance**

Tom Arthur (SNP)

**Minister for Local Government Empowerment and Planning**

Joe FitzPatrick (SNP)

**Minister for Public Health and Women's Health**

Jenni Minto (SNP)

**Minister for Social Care, Mental Wellbeing and Sport**

Maree Todd (SNP)

**Minister for Children, Young People and Keeping the Promise**

Natalie Don (SNP)

**Minister for Higher and Further Education and Minister for Veterans**

Graeme Dey (SNP)

**Minister for Transport**

Fiona Hyslop (SNP) (13 June 2023- 20 February 2024)

**Minister for Small Business, Innovation, Tourism and Trade**

Richard Lochhead (SNP)

**Minister for Energy, Just Transition and Fair Work**

Gillian Martin (SNP)

**Minister for Equalities, Migration and Refugees**

Emma Roddick (SNP)

### **Minister for Housing**

Paul McLennan (SNP)

### **Minister for Victims and Community Safety**

Siobhian Brown (SNP)

### **Minister for Green Skills, Circular Economy and Biodiversity**

Lorna Slater (Green) (31 August 2021 - 25 April 2024)

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

Patrick Harvie (Green) (31 August 2021 - 25 April 2024)

## **Law Officers**

### **Lord Advocate**

Dorothy Bain KC

### **Solicitor General**

Ruth Charteris KC

## **About SPICe**

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