



## Life Peers Created by Prime Minister

### Overview

As at 19 September 2019, 1,437 life peers have been created under the provisions of the Life Peerages Act 1958, with a further 20 to be created following recent peerage announcements. Those waiting to be created include the 19 life peers announced on 10 September 2019 as part of Theresa May’s resignation honours<sup>1</sup> and the peerage announced for Lord Reed following his appointment as President of the Supreme Court (his new role is due to start 11 January 2020).<sup>2</sup>

Of the 19 peers announced in the resignation honours list:

- eight are women (42%); and
- four are former MPs (21%).

For comparison, out of the total number of life peers created under the 1958 Act to date:

- 301 were women (21%); and
- 471 were former MPs (33%).

### Life Peers Announced Under Each Prime Minister

The following table provides a breakdown of life peers announced under each prime minister. For simplicity, it allocates these based on the prime minister in office at the time of the announcement. Therefore, the 19 life peers recently announced as part of Theresa May’s resignation honours are attributed to Prime Minister Boris Johnson, as he was in post at the time of the announcement.

#### *Life Peers Announced by Prime Minister<sup>3</sup>*

	Dates	Con	Lab	Lib/SDP	XB/ Other	Total (of which women)
Harold Macmillan	January 1957 – October 1963	13	20		14	47 (7)
Sir Alec Douglas-Home	October 1963 – October 1964	4	9		3	16 (2)
Harold Wilson	October 1964 – June 1970	14	62	6	53	135 (14)
Edward Heath	June 1970 – March 1974	8	9	2	26	45 (8)
Harold Wilson	March 1974 – April 1976	22	39	5	14	80 (11)

	Dates	Con	Lab	Lib/SDP	XB/ Other	Total (of which women)
James Callaghan	April 1976 – May 1979	5	29	1	23	58 (5)
Margaret Thatcher	May 1979 – November 1990	96	56	10	39	201 (27)
John Major	May 1990 – May 1997	76	40	15	29	160 (29)
Tony Blair	May 1997 – June 2007	62	162	54	96	374 (88)
Gordon Brown	June 2007 – May 2010	4	11	2	17	34 (10)
David Cameron	May 2010 – July 2016	110	55	51	29	245 (83)
Theresa May	July 2016 – July 2019	26 <sup>4</sup>	4		13 <sup>5</sup>	43 (17)
Boris Johnson <sup>6</sup>	July 2019 –	8	3		8	19 (8)
<b>Total</b>		<b>447</b>	<b>499</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>365</b>	<b>1,457 (309)</b>

<sup>1</sup> Cabinet Office, [Resignation Peerages](#), 10 September 2019.

<sup>2</sup> Prime Minister's Office, ['Appointments to the Supreme Court'](#), 24 July 2019.

<sup>3</sup> Source: House of Lords Library.

<sup>4</sup> It should be noted that Lord Tyrie is included in this number as he was originally announced among the Conservative Party's nominations for new Members (Prime Minister's Office, ['Queen Confers Peerages'](#), 18 May 2018). However, it was subsequently announced that he would sit as non-affiliated ([HL Hansard, 22 May 2018, col 982](#)).

<sup>5</sup> This includes the peerage announced for Lord Reed following his appointment to President of the Supreme Court (Prime Minister's Office, ['Appointments to the Supreme Court'](#), 24 July 2019). Although this peerage has been announced, it is still to be created by letters patent.

<sup>6</sup> Note: These peerages were announced on 10 September 2019, but each is still to be created by letters patent. The affiliations recorded are those set out in the resignation peerages notice (Cabinet Office, [Resignation Peerages](#), 10 September 2019).

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