

# News story: HM Treasury welcomes new ministerial team

The new team at the Treasury is:

Chancellor of the Exchequer, Philip Hammond, said:

Ensuring we have an economy fit for the future is vital to families up and down the country, so I'm delighted to be leading a team of ministers committed to creating a prosperous and inclusive economy where talent and hard work are rewarded and where everybody has the opportunity to shine.

I'd like to welcome Robert and John, and welcome back Liz and Mel. Together we will work tirelessly to deliver a truly global Britain.

Chief Secretary to the Treasury, Elizabeth Truss, said:

It's fantastic to be reappointed at this vital time for our country. I'm looking forward to working with my Treasury and government colleagues. We will continue our focus on improving lives across the UK and backing the great businesses and people that drive Britain's economy.

Financial Secretary to the Treasury and Paymaster General, Mel Stride, said:

A fair tax system is key to building a fairer society and I look forward to continuing our vital work to support families and businesses, crack down on avoidance and evasion, and ensure that our customs system works effectively when we leave the European Union.

Exchequer Secretary to the Treasury, Robert Jenrick, said:

As Exchequer Secretary, I am delighted to carry on this government's fantastic work to boost productivity, deliver better infrastructure and maximise the potential for our country.

Britain is a world leader in infrastructure delivering two of Europe's largest projects, and our record investment will help

ensure Britain is fit for the future.

Economic Secretary to the Treasury and City Minister, John Glen, said:

Britain is the financial services centre of the world and I am determined to maintain this leading position at what is a crucial period for the industry. The sector employs over a million people across the nation and its tax take is essential for helping to pay for our hospitals, roads, parks and schools.

I'm incredibly proud to be appointed City Minister and I'm looking forward to working with the industry to plot a course for a prosperous future.

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## **Press release: New Shared Services Strategy to deliver millions of pounds of savings to the taxpayer**

By improving civil servants' interactions with government back office services, the strategy will support a Civil Service, where civil servants can seamlessly move between departments and roles, allowing the Civil Service to deploy what we need to meet the challenges of the day.

The [strategy](#) primarily focuses on driving value and efficiency for the taxpayer by moving to the latest cloud technology, promoting simpler back office processes across departments supported by automation, and meeting the needs of end users across the Civil Service, police, and the armed forces. Doing these things will enable a smarter and more flexible back office for the Civil Service.

Once it has been implemented successfully, the new strategy will promote competition between shared services providers in the market, driving both performance for users, and value for the taxpayer by making service providers constantly improve their technology. By making the most of the latest automation, and robotics, we can make sure that civil servants are supported while they deliver public services.

This strategy will be delivered by the newly formed Government Shared Services unit, from within the Cabinet Office, in collaboration with all government departments.

Matthew Coats, Interim Head of Government Shared Services, and Chief Operating Officer of the Ministry of Justice said:

The shared services strategy for government sets clear direction, and I am pleased to have been part of its development. This will be step change in shared services across the government, directly supporting civil servants in their roles, while also contributing significant savings to the public purse.

By allowing civil servants to spend less time doing administration, they can spend more time delivering vital services to the public.

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## **News story: Civil/crime news: more dates for HMCTS roadshows**

Providers can attend more HMCTS Roadshow Reform events with dates being announced in Birmingham, Winchester and Leeds.

The £1 billion reform programme will affect courts and tribunals, and is due to be completed in 2022. Where will the events be held?

The roadshow event series began last year and will continue into 2018. Dates will always be announced on the HMCTS website and twitter account.

The latest venues to be announced are:

- 9 January 5:30pm-7pm – IET Centre, Birmingham
- 5 February, time TBC – Winchester Combined Court
- 9 February, 5:00pm-6:30pm – Leeds Magistrates' Court

### **How will the events work?**

There will be a general introduction to the reform programme and a round-table discussion. Issues will include:

- scheduling and listing
- virtual hearings

- flexible operating hours

## **How do I register?**

Register your interest on the HMCTS website link.

## **Further information**

[HMCTS website](#) and [#HMCTS](#) – to check for future Reform Roadshow announcements

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## **News story: Harriett Baldwin MP appointed Minister for Africa**

I am honoured to have been appointed and look forward to representing Global Britain with African nations to tackle a range of opportunities and challenges in Africa.

The UK has longstanding and important relationships, and I will work for an even stronger partnership with African nations, finding new ways to fight poverty, minimise threats and build mutual prosperity.

Eighteen African countries are part of the Commonwealth, so a priority for the upcoming Commonwealth Summit will be looking at how we meet the ambitions of the next generation, including creating the jobs and economic growth so crucial for a modern Africa.

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## **News story: Damian Hinds appointed Secretary of State for Education**

The Prime Minister has appointed Damian Hinds MP as Secretary of State for Education.

Commenting on his new role, the Secretary of State for Education Damian Hinds said:

“I am honoured to be appointed Education Secretary.

“This Government has a strong record raising education standards and offering opportunity, particularly to those most in need, through our nurseries,

schools, colleges and world-class universities.

“We are here to make sure young people and adults in this country have the chance to make the most of their talents and get on in life. That means more good school places and giving people the chance to learn and upskill throughout their lives with high-quality degrees, apprenticeships and other technical and vocational qualifications.

“Thanks to a hardworking and incredibly talented generation of teachers, alongside our bold reforms, there are now 1.9million more children in good or outstanding schools than in 2010, our pupils are now amongst the world’s best readers and our GCSEs and A-levels now rank amongst the world’s best qualifications.

“Working with the teaching profession, educational staff, businesses and employers, I want to continue to build on this fantastic record.

“The world economy is changing and it is through education, skills and training from the early years into adulthood that we will make sure no one is left behind – delivering a modern country that is globally competitive and fit for the future.”