

UK Prime Minister Announces "New" Cabinet



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The UK's new "Trump-approved" Prime Minister forms his Cabinet. It maintains many MPs from Starmer's cabinet, including those who defended militarisation and who strengthened the police.

Details. On July 20, Andy Burnham took office as the new prime minister after Keir Starmer's resignation, and named several Labour members of Parliament to join his [cabinet](#), with many of the former PM's old cabinet retaining important positions.

► John Healey was appointed Chancellor, i.e. the chief financial minister. He had [resigned](#) from his post as Defence Secretary two months prior due to a military spending dispute with former Prime Minister Keir Starmer, demanding more funds. Even the opposition, which had also demanded a higher military budget increase, [welcomed](#) Healey's return.

► Shabana Mahmood remains Home Secretary. She is known for her goal of [building](#) an AI-powered permanent surveillance system in prisons and policing in general, her [harsh stance](#) on immigration and [deportation](#), and her push to [grant police](#) extra powers to suppress protests.

► Wes Streeting was appointed Defence Secretary. He was previously [Health Secretary](#), but resigned after "losing confidence" in Starmer's leadership. As Health Secretary, Streeting sought to [attract](#) more private investment into the National Healthcare Service (NHS) – an approach he's expected to [apply](#) in his current role at the Defence Ministry, alongside [cutting waste](#). Streeting was also among the [potential successors](#) for Starmer.

Context. Starmer's government was elected amid [economic stagnation](#) and a [cost-of-living](#) crisis, [promising](#) stability, change and "wealth creation" through a partnership with [private capital](#). However, upon taking office, they failed to meaningfully change the situation; the party had [vague policies](#) and went through numerous [U-turns](#), the cost of living crisis [persisted](#), and the [far-right](#) continued to grow.

► [Similarly](#), Andy Burnham says people seek change, and promises to "immediately" [reduce](#) the cost of living through "business-friendly socialism". Some of his proposals are deprivatizing municipal services, making public transport free for young people, delegating some power to the regions, and introducing a vague [housing plan](#). Additionally, he has promised targeted [tax cuts](#) for small businesses and [higher taxes](#) on retailers like Amazon.

► Upon his election, Burnham was [endorsed](#) by Donald Trump, who wished him "good luck". Burnham recently authorised oil drilling in the North Sea – something that Trump [criticised](#) Starmer for refusing to do. The two also discussed trade, military alliances and the demining of the Hormuz Strait, agreeing to maintain close contact.