

Press Notice

Commissioner for Public Appointments publishes 2024–25 Annual Report

Sir William Shawcross CVO, the [independent Commissioner for Public Appointments](#), today published his annual report for 2024 – 25.

The report contains information and statistics on appointments made by Ministers to the boards of public bodies in England and Wales under the [government's Governance Code](#).

In 2024 - 25:

- There were 3915 public appointees, holding 4,033 public appointments
- 449 new appointments were made to the boards of [regulated public bodies](#)
- 13% of current public appointees said they are from an ethnic minority
- 20% of those shortlisted, found appointable and appointed in 2024-25 are from an ethnic minority
- 52% of current public appointees are women
- 58% of those appointed in 2024–25 are women
- 4% of incumbent public appointees declare a disability, significantly below representation in the wider population (approx.17%)
- 67% of appointees described their parents as having a professional background
- 16.7% of public appointments campaigns were completed within 3 months.
- 7% of public appointees, for whom there is data, declared political activity.

Notes to Editors

1. Media enquiries about the work of the Commissioner for Public Appointments should go to Maggie O'Boyle on 07880 740627.
2. Sir William Shawcross CVO was appointed as Commissioner for Public Appointments in 2021. The Commissioner for Public Appointments regulates the processes by which Ministers in the UK and Welsh Governments make appointments to the boards of national and regional public bodies.
3. The post of independent Commissioner for Public Appointments was created in 1995 following a report by the [Committee on Standards in Public Life](#), chaired by Lord Nolan.
4. The data used to compile this report was [published by the Cabinet Office in December 2025](#). This includes data for incumbent public appointees and new appointees across five categories – sex, ethnicity, disability, region and socio-economic background. In addition the Commissioner has considered other elements of the data collected by departments, via the Public Appointments Digital Service (PADS) and the Welsh Government's (CAIS) system.

5. For more information about the work of the Commissioner go to: <http://publicappointmentscommissioner.independent.gov.uk>
6. You can follow the Commissioner for Public Appointments on X @publicapptscomm