

Pol Econ Group – Feb 6th

Honours System - outline

Life Peerages

Created in 1958, allows holder to sit and vote in House of Lords. Appointed by Prime Minister, awarded to folk who have record of distinguished public service. Other major parties also allowed to nominate candidates, all vetted by the House of Lords Appointments Commission. Currently some 700+ life peers.

Order of the Garter *Created a long time back. Comprised of various Royals plus 24 conferred by the Sovereign known as Knights and Ladies Companions, see below (6 vacancies). All get to wear elaborate costume.*

James Hamilton, Duke of Abercorn	Baron Shuttleworth, Lord-Lieutenant of Lancashire
Baron Butler, former cabinet secretary	Alan Brooke, Viscount Brookeborough, Lord in Waiting
Sir John Major, former prime minister	Lady Mary Fagan, ex Lord-Lieutenant of Hampshire
Baron Luce, former lord chamberlain	Baron Gascoyne-Cecil, former Leader House of Lords
Sir Thomas Dunne, ex lord-lieutenant	Lady Mary Peters, ex Lord-Lieutenant of Belfast
Baron Phillips, former lord chief justice	Baroness Amos, former leader of the HoL (also CH)
Baron Stirrup, ex. chief of the defence staff	Sir Tony Blair, former prime minister
Baroness Manningham-Buller	Baroness Ashton, former leader of the House of Lords
Baron King of Lothbury, ex-BoE Governor	Baron Patten of Barnes, former chair of the BBC Trust

Royal Victorian Order *Created in 1897, admission at sole discretion of Sovereign. No limit on number of holders. Titles include Knight Grand Cross (GCVO), Commander (CVO). Membership comprises Royal Household members, leading Church of England figures, diplomats. David Attenborough too!*

Order of St Michael and St George *Awarded to diplomats and others for foreign service. Companion Grand Cross (CMG - aka Call Me God), Knight Grand Cross (GCMG - aka God Calls Me God)*

Order of Merit (OM) *Created in 1902, honour conferred by the Sovereign on folk of exceptional distinction in arts, learning and sciences. Membership limited to 24. (2 vacancies)*

Sir David Adjaye	Norman Foster
Professor Dame Elizabeth Anionwu,	David Hockney (also CH)
Sir David Frederick Attenborough (also CH)	Neil MacGregor
Sir Timothy John Berners-Lee,	Professor Margaret Olwen MacMillan (also CH)
Baroness Benjamin	Sir Paul Maxime Nurse (also CH)
Jean Chrétien	Professor Sir Roger Penrose
The Lord Darzi of Denham	Sir Simon Rattle
Professor Dame Ann Dowling	Martin Rees
Sir James Dyson	Dr Venki Ramakrishnan
Robert Henry Alexander, Lord Eames,	Professor Sir Magdi Yacoub
John Howard	

Companion of Honour (CH) *Created in 1917 and limited to 65. Nominated by public, reviewed by an honours committee, submitted to PM for approval. Granted to those who've made a major contribution to arts, science, medicine, public life. Companions include Gordon Brown, Melvyn Bragg, Paul McCartney, Shirley Bassey, George Osborne, David Attenborough (again)*

Order of the British Empire *Established in 1917 under George V for services in arts, science, charity, public affairs + British Empire Medal (reinstated in 2012) awarded in recognition of local service*

GBE	Knight/Dame Grand Cross of the British Empire	Between 2,000 and 3,000 awarded annually, Estimated 100,000 living holders. Public nominations submitted to the Cabinet Office, considered by specialised committees (10), vetted by a Secretariat based in Cabinet Office, recommendations to the PM, bestowed by Monarch.
KBE/DBE	Knight/Dame Commander of the British Empire	
CBE	Commander of the British Empire	
OBE	Officer of the British Empire	
MBE	Member of the British Empire	