

# Job of The Week

Member of  
Parliament

## Key Skills

- an understanding of society and culture
- Legal knowledge including court procedures and government regulations
- excellent verbal communication skills
- to be thorough and pay attention to detail
- to be able to use a computer and the main software packages competently
- the ability to think clearly using logic and reasoning
- persistence and determination
- analytical thinking skills
- active listening skills

## Salary

£82,000 - £150,500

## Working hours

44 - 46 per week  
evenings  
away from home

Aspire | Challenge | Achieve

# Member of Parliament

## Volunteering

Most people show their commitment through campaigning and volunteering for their party.

You could also:

- serve as a local councillor
- be active in a trade union
- get involved in student politics
- work as a researcher or caseworker for an existing MP

Contact your local councillors or your student office to ask about opportunities to volunteer with them.

## Career tips

You'll need a good understanding of local and national issues, and keep up to date with current affairs.

The Houses of Parliament offer the following schemes to get involved:

- The Parliamentary Academy Scheme
- Speaker's Parliamentary Placement Scheme
- The House of Commons Apprenticeship Scheme
- House of Lords Apprenticeship Scheme
- Undergraduate Sandwich Student Placements

## Other Routes

To become an MP, you have to be elected in a by-election or general election. You can stand for election as a member of a political party or as an independent candidate.

Each political party has its own selection procedure. Usually, you'll need to get the support of your party's nominating officer before you can become a candidate.

During an election, you'll be expected to campaign in public and online, attend meetings, make speeches and talk to the local media. You'll find it helpful to have some experience in one or more of these areas.

## Post 16

There normally aren't any subject requirements for a politics degree, but each university will have different grade boundaries. Applicants with the best chances will be those who have studied politics, or a combination of economics, history, geography, philosophy or sociology.



## Career path and progression

General elections are held every 5 years, so it can take some time to be elected MP.

With experience, you might get the opportunity to:

- take on extra responsibilities like chairing committees
- move into more senior positions like party whip or party leader
- move from junior minister to minister to cabinet minister if your party is in power
- be a spokesperson on certain issues or have responsibilities in a shadow cabinet if your party is in opposition

## Working conditions

Your working environment may be physically and emotionally demanding and you may spend nights away from home.

## Day to Day tasks:

You'll need:

- active listening skills
- analytical thinking skills
- excellent verbal communication skills
- an understanding of society and culture
- to be thorough and pay attention to detail
- persistence and determination
- to be able to use a computer and the main software packages competently
- the ability to think clearly using logic and reasoning
- legal knowledge including court procedures and government regulations

# Labour Market Information

In the Careers section of the school website you can find the useful comparison tool the 'Labour Market Information widget'.

Use the widget to compare different job roles in any employment sector or relating specifically to the 'Job of the Week'.

## Elected officers and representatives

Weekly Pay <b>£890</b>	Annual Pay <b>£46,280</b>
Hours/Week <b>50h</b>	Hourly Pay <b>£18</b>

### Workforce Change (projected)

Growth <b>4.8%</b>	Replacement <b>47.9%</b>
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The workforce is projected to grow by 4.8% over the period to 2027, creating 500 jobs. In the same period, 47.9% of the workforce is projected to retire, creating 5,200 job openings.

You might find this job in  
Public admin. & defence

[More info](#)

[Clear card](#)

## Legal professionals n.e.c.

Weekly Pay <b>£1,690</b>	Annual Pay <b>£87,880</b>
Hours/Week <b>33h</b>	Hourly Pay <b>£51</b>

### Workforce Change (projected)

Growth <b>3.3%</b>	Replacement <b>54.8%</b>
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The workforce is projected to grow by 3.3% over the period to 2027, creating 2,200 jobs. In the same period, 54.8% of the workforce is projected to retire, creating 36,000 job openings.

You might find this job in  
Legal & accounting  
Public admin. & defence  
Head offices, etc  
Financial services  
Auxiliary services

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## Local government administrative occupations

Weekly Pay <b>£570</b>	Annual Pay <b>£29,640</b>
Hours/Week <b>38h</b>	Hourly Pay <b>£15</b>

### Workforce Change (projected)

Contraction <b>-3.2%</b>	Replacement <b>69.5%</b>
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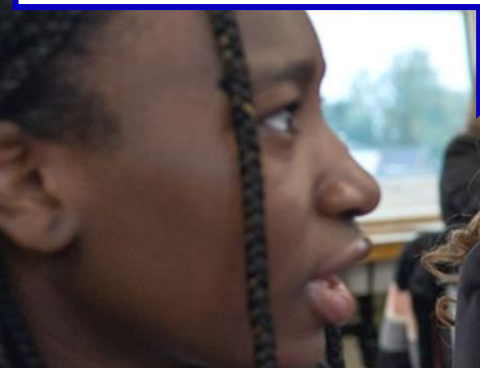
The workforce is projected to contract by -3.2% over the period to 2027, losing 4,900 jobs. In the same period, 69.5% of the workforce is projected to retire, creating 106,800 job openings.

You might find this job in  
Public admin. & defence  
Social work  
Sport & recreation  
Residential care  
Employment activities

[More info](#)

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# Labour Market Information



## Elected officers and representatives

Elected representatives in national government formulate and ratify legislation and government policy, act as elected representatives in Parliament, European Parliament, Regional Parliaments or Assemblies, and as representatives of the government and its executive. Elected officers in local government act as representatives in the local authority and participate in the formulation, ratification and implementation of local government policies.

Common tasks in this job:

- represents constituency within the legislature and advises and assists constituents on a variety of issues;
- acts as a Party representative within the constituency;
- participates in debates and votes on legislative and other matters;
- holds positions on parliamentary or local government committees;

Back

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## Legal professionals n.e.c.

Job holders in this unit group perform a variety of other professional legal occupations not elsewhere classified in MINOR GROUP 241: Legal Professionals.

Common tasks in this job:

- co-ordinates the activities of magistrates courts and advises magistrates on law and legal procedure;
- provides legal advice to individuals within Citizens Advice, Law Centres and other such establishments;
- drafts and negotiates contracts on behalf of employers;
- advises employers, local and national government and other organisations on aspects of law and legislative implications of decisions made;

Back

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## Local government administrative occupations

Job holders in this unit group undertake a variety of administrative and clerical duties in local government offices and departments.

Common tasks in this job:

- computes cost of product/services and maintains and balances records of financial transactions;
- prepares and checks invoices and verifies accuracy of records;
- receives and pays out cash and cheques and performs closely related clerical duties;
- updates and maintains data, correspondence and other records for storage or despatch;

Back

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Keep looking...

Use these links to learn more about our Job of The Week, consider the various pathways leading to the career, what you can be doing now to help yourself and other roles in the industry...

Take a look at these short videos for inspiration...

What's it like being a new MP?



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TexvxcRPitY&pp=vgUNYMvJb21pbmcbgYSBtcA%3D%3D>

UK Parliament tour - House of Commons Chamber



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0ToKcEvqXuM&pp=vgUbdG91ciBhcm91bmQgaG9zZSBvZiBjb21tb25z>

Role of an MP



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=12CrDiMp0rE&pp=vgUMd2hhdcBpcy8hIG1w>

Sunak's smoke-free generation



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=23J3zBmr-1A&pp=vgUVcHJpbWUgbWluc3RlciBzZW9raW5n>

## Useful Websites

[MP | Explore careers | National Careers Service](#)

[Politics \(ucas.com\)](#)

[About Parliament - UK Parliament](#)

[w4mp – The site for everyone working for an MP](#)

<https://www.theuniguide.co.uk/subjects/politics>

[About our Sixth Form – Bourne Academy](#)

[Your MPs \(moderngov.co.uk\)](#)