

Role of the Chief Whip.

The primary role of the Chief Whip is to get the Government's business through the Assembly, and in particular to secure the Government's majority in votes on its legislative and policy programs. The Government Chief Whip attends Cabinet, and is responsible working with the Business Minister for timetabling and securing the passage of LCO's & Measures through the Assembly and working to successfully completing the Government's legislative programme. The Government Whip's main tools in achieving this are the management of AMs' attendance in votes and the persuasion of members to vote with the government.

The Chief Whip not only operates as an important link between the government and the parliamentary party, they also provide a link between the government and opposition parties and other important figures in the APS & presiding office within Assembly.

He /She also:

- attends regular weekly meetings of the key figures to discuss the arrangements of business at the Assembly.
- Attends cabinet.
- daily contact among the key figures to deal with ongoing matters, agenda and timetabling issues;
- during the passage of legislation and other government business, discussions between the whips on both sides, the minister in charge of the business and his or her opposition 'shadow' may take place to resolve any difficulties that may arise with amendments or when a vote will take place and, if possible, deals will be done;
- contact between the whips over various matters, such as 'pairing', and filling intermittent vacancies on committees;
- membership of committees, sub committees is arranged by the Chief Whip;
- other matters, such as changes coming before or emanating from the Business Committee may also be discussed through these channels;

Other duties include

Ensuring that backbenchers vote correctly by electronic vote is an important part of the whips duty.

The whip is circulated weekly by whips of each party to their own members and lists the business for the following week, together with the party's expectations as to when its AMs will vote. Whips need to be good personnel managers.

In order to minimise the need to persuade backbenchers to support the government, the Chief Whip also advises the Cabinet about the likely acceptability of its legislative proposals to the group.

There are also Chief Whips in:

- [Australia](#)
- [Canada - Chief Government Whip \(Canada\)](#)
- [India](#)
- [Ireland](#)
- [Malaysia - Chief Whip \(Malaysia\)](#)
- [New Zealand](#)
- [South Africa](#)
- UK Parliament (House of Commons & Lords)

Office-holders in House of Commons

	Ministerial Entitlement (£)	Total (including parliamentary salary) (£)
Prime Minister	128,174	188,849
Cabinet Minister	76,904	137,579
Government Chief Whip	76,904	137,579
Solicitor General	67,008	127,683
Government Deputy Chief Whip	39,893	100,568
Government Whip	25,673	86,348
Assistant Government Whip	25,673	86,348
Leader of the Opposition	70,497	131,172
Opposition Chief Whip	39,893	100,568
Deputy Chief Opposition Whip	25,673	86,348

Office-holders in House of Lords (No parliamentary salary)

Attorney General	109,201
Government Chief Whip	81,504
Government Deputy Chief Whip	70,986
Government Whip	65,642
Leader of the Opposition	70,986
Opposition Chief Whip	65,642