

[A Tribute to the Rt Hon Dame Cheryl Gillan MP](#)

News story

The Former Welsh Secretary died after suffering from a long illness.



Rt Hon Dame Cheryl Gillan MP was the first, and so far only, female Welsh Secretary. She served in Prime Minister David Cameron's Cabinet and held the position from 2010 to 2012.

In 2011, she supported the running of the Welsh devolution referendum on direct law-making powers for the Welsh Parliament, formally the National Assembly for Wales.

During the same year, she established the independent commission on Devolution in Wales, also known as the Silk Commission, where the case for the devolution of fiscal power to the Welsh Parliament was reviewed and considered the case for increasing its powers.

Current Secretary of State for Wales, Simon Hart MP said:

Dame Cheryl Gillan was a hugely respected figure who contributed a great deal to Welsh and UK politics over many years, including as Welsh Secretary.

She will be fondly remembered, and I send my condolences to her family and friends.

Prime Minister Boris Johnson said:

I'm very sad to hear the news of the death of Dame Cheryl Gillan. She was a great servant to the people of Chesham and Amersham, to the Conservative Party and to the country as Secretary of State for Wales.

Always full of wise advice and good humour, she was much loved on all sides of the House of Commons and will be sorely missed. My sincere condolences to her family and friends.

Director of the Office of the Secretary of State for Wales, Glynne Jones said:

I had the privilege of working closely with Dame Cheryl whilst she was Welsh Secretary and I witnessed at first hand her compassion, kindness and generosity. She will be sorely missed, and my heart goes out to her friends and family.

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