

Don Foster MP

Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Communities and Local Government

Liberal Democrat, Bath

Majority: 11,883



Electoral History

1987 Unsuccessfully contested the seat for Bristol East parliamentary constituency as Liberal/Alliance

1992 Elected Member of Parliament for Bath (unseating the then Chairman of the Conservative Party, Member Chris Patten)

Local Council/Party Groups

1981 Founding Member of Avon Liberal Democrat Group on Avon County Council

1981 - 1986 SDP/Liberal Alliance Group Leader

1985 - 1989 Executive Member of Association of County Councils

1989 Stood down as County Councillor

1993 - 1995 President of Liberal Democrat Youth and Students

Select Committees

1996 - 1999 Member: Education and Employment,

1997 - 1999 Education and Employment (Education Sub-Committee)

Appointments

1992 - 95 Spokesperson for: Education,

1995 - 97 Education and Employment;

1999 - 2001 Principal Spokesperson for: Environment, Transport, the Regions and Social Justice,

2001 - 02 Transport, Local Government and the Regions,

2002 - 03 Liberal Democrat Spokesperson for Transport (Shadow Secretary of State)

2003 - 10 Liberal Democrat Spokesperson for Culture, Media and Sport (Shadow Secretary of State)

2012 - Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department for Communities and Local Government

Biography

Born in Preston, Lancashire, and educated at the Lancaster Royal Grammar School, Don Foster studied at Keele University where he was awarded a Bachelor of Science degree in physics and psychology in 1969. He also received the Certificate in Education, and later studied for his master's degree in education at the University of Bath in 1981.

Don has previously worked as a science teacher at the Sevenoaks School in Kent in 1969, before becoming a science project director with the Avon Education Authority and a lecturer in education at

the University of Bristol in 1980.

Previously the Liberal Democrat Spokesperson for Culture Media, Sport & Olympics and member of the Olympic Board, Don was appointed as Deputy Mayor of the London 2012 Paralympic Village in August 2012. After taking the appointment Don is quoted as saying "I am especially proud given the special affinity that Bath has with the London 2012 Paralympics. With the city hosting the ParalympicsGB team in preparation camps and welcoming the Paralympic Flame on 25 August, I know many Bath residents feel closely associated with the Games."

On appointment to his position as Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State Don took to his twitter feed @DonFosterMP and posted "just received call from no.10 confirming my appt as minister in DCLG. Will miss my DCMS role, but looking forward to the new challenge."

His personal website indicates that Don is also interested in "issues in the developing world; he is a member of Amnesty International and the Child Poverty Action Group. He also supports a number of local charities, including Ted's Big Day Out, Julian House. His main national charity is Water Aid and he has seen first hand their work in Ethiopia and Tanzania."

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