

## **What the general election means for people across England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland**

Power is shared between the UK Parliament in Westminster and three other legislatures across the UK. These are the Senedd in Wales, the Scottish Parliament and the Northern Ireland Assembly.

Voters in all four countries of the UK elect MPs to Westminster. MPs for English constituencies have responsibility for most areas of public policy. However, many of the day-to-day issues that affect people in Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland are decided in the Senedd, Parliament and Assembly. These devolved issues include health and social care, education and housing.

Westminster MPs elected to represent constituencies in Wales, Northern Ireland and Scotland do not have responsibility for devolved issues that affect their constituents. This sits with members elected in separate elections to the Senedd (MSs), Parliament (MSPs) and Assembly (MLAs).

### **What the general election means where you live**

#### **England**

The majority of health, welfare, transport and economic policy that governs the way services are provided in England is decided by the UK Parliament at Westminster.

There are devolution agreements within England, such as for transport and certain aspects of health in cities like London and Manchester to shape how these services are delivered. But overall budgets and most policy decisions are driven from Westminster.

This means that your MP can act on most matters. This includes:

- asking questions of Ministers and government departments
- speaking in debates
- proposing, shaping and voting on new laws
- representing and supporting constituents who are experiencing problems
- attending Parkinson's UK events to learn more about how they can support their constituents with Parkinson's

If your MP is a member of the party (or parties) that forms the UK Government, they may become a Minister, or be able to use their party links to share your views with Ministers.

#### **Wales**

Most of the day-to-day matters that affect local people with Parkinson's and their families are not decided by Westminster, so your MP may not have responsibility for

them. But there are some important areas, like welfare, where Westminster MPs are responsible for what happens in Wales.

There are 60 elected Senedd members, known as MSs. Since its creation, the Senedd has been given increasing powers to shape policy in Wales. The next Senedd election will take place in May 2026.

<b>Westminster MPs' responsibilities include</b>	<b>Senedd MSs' responsibilities include</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Welfare and benefits</li> <li>● Employment</li> <li>● Constitutional matters - including Senedd powers and the size of the block grant to Wales</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Health and care</li> <li>● Housing</li> <li>● Local Government</li> <li>● Transport</li> <li>● How the Welsh Government budget is spent</li> </ul>

### **Scotland**

Most of the day-to-day matters that affect local people with Parkinson's and their families are not decided by Westminster, so your MP may not have responsibility for them. But there are some important areas, like parts of the social security system, where Westminster MPs are responsible for what happens in Scotland.

There are 129 elected members of the Scottish Parliament, known as MSPs. The next Scottish Parliament election will take place in May 2026.

<b>Westminster MPs' responsibilities include</b>	<b>Scottish Parliament MSPs' responsibilities include</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Some aspects of the benefits system, including Universal Credit and pensions</li> <li>● Employment</li> <li>● Constitutional matters - including Scottish Parliament powers and block grant to Scotland</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Health and care</li> <li>● Disability and carers benefits, plus some other parts of the social security system</li> <li>● Housing</li> <li>● Local Government</li> <li>● Transport</li> <li>● How the Scottish Government budget is spent</li> </ul>

### **Northern Ireland**

The Northern Ireland Assembly has the largest set of powers of any of the devolved assemblies and parliaments. This means that most of the day-to-day matters that affect

local people with Parkinson's and their families are not decided by Westminster, and your MP will not have responsibility for them.

MPs elected for Sinn Fein do not take up their seats at Westminster. There are now 90 elected members of the Assembly, known as MLAs.

<b>Westminster MPs' responsibilities include</b>	<b>Northern Ireland Assembly MLAs' responsibilities include</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Constitutional matters - including some Northern Ireland Assembly powers and the block grant to Northern Ireland</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Health and care</li> <li>● Social security and pensions</li> <li>● Education</li> <li>● Employment</li> <li>● Housing</li> <li>● Transport</li> <li>● Local Government</li> <li>● How the Northern Ireland Government's budget is spent</li> </ul>