

# SIR GEORGE HOLLINGBERY KCMG, BA, MBA

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## HIGHLY EXPERIENCED POLITICIAN AND ENTREPRENEUR

Respected politician and founder, funder and operator of a series of start-up companies. Proven track record in diplomacy both at an international level and domestically. Extensive experience of critical decision making in complex environments under time pressure. Participation in the political process at the highest level both at home and abroad and exposure to the broadest range of policy and its development. A reputation for loyalty, discretion and quiet effectiveness. *Core competencies include:*

Relationship Management ♦ Team Building & Leadership ♦ Negotiation  
Planning & Implementation ♦ Management of People ♦ Public Speaking and Communication  
Innovation ♦ Business Management ♦ Financial analysis  
Particular Expertise in Trade Policy

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### SELECTED ACHIEVEMENTS

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- Led the teams, working under extreme time pressure, that prepared the UK's Trade Policy for implementation in the event of the UK exiting the European Union without a deal
- Worked closely on an every-day basis in No 10 Downing St with the Prime Minister
- Helped found and fund a successful start-up in the renewables sector while an MP

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### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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#### PARLIAMENT

**Member of Parliament for Meon Valley** 2010 - 2019

#### UK GOVERNMENT

**Minister of State for Trade Policy** 2018 - 2019

- Multiple overseas visits to promote UK trade, sign trade deals and attend trade talks
- Renegotiation of multiple existing EU trade deals with third party countries
- Recasting the Unilateral Preferences scheme, that governs the EU's trade with the world's least developed countries, into a UK specific form
- Preparing the UK's tariff schedules to be implemented on exit day
- Setting up the UK's trade defence body, the Trade Remedies Authority
- Negotiation with the Devolved Governments as to their rights and responsibilities in relation to Free Trade Agreement negotiations
- Undertaking the public consultation on future UK Trade Deals

**Parliamentary Private Secretary to the Prime Minister** 2016 - 2018

- Member of the Prime Minister's daily morning briefing team
- Worked closely across No 10 with civil servants and special advisers
- Observer at all cabinet meetings
- Working with the Chief Whip, negotiated with MP colleagues during some of the most turbulent times in recent political history
- Part of the small team that designed two ministerial reshuffles
- Prepared the Prime Minister for many of her public appearances including PMQs

**Lord Commissioner of Her Majesty's Treasury (senior whip)** 2015 - 2016

- Whip responsible for the business of the Foreign & Commonwealth Office
- Took the EU Referendum Act through the House of Commons
- Ran the Private Members' Bill process

**Parliamentary Private Secretary to the Home Secretary** 2012 - 2015

## **BUSINESS**

**The Renewable Design Company / Rendesco** 2014 - 2019

Founder, funder and adviser. The business installed and ran ground-source heat pump installations for the sheltered accommodation sector. Sold in 2019.

**Thompson Sowerbutts** 2005 - 2014

Investor in and adviser to a property development company. All projects completed and sold.

**Companion Care** 1994 - 2002

Founder, funder and director. The business installed and operated veterinary surgeries both within Pets at Home pet superstores and as standalone units. Sold in 2002.

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## **EDUCATION**

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The Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania, MBA 1989 - 1991

Oxford University, BA in Human Sciences. Concentration on Social Anthropology 1982 - 1985

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## **OTHER**

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Married to Janette, an American & British dual national, with three adult children.

References available on request.