

PAUL SCULLY

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PROFILE: EXPERIENCED COMMUNICATOR, ENTREPRENEUR, BUSINESSMAN AND LEGISLATOR

Focused on outcomes over outputs. Experienced entrepreneur and policy professional with an extensive background at the top level of Government affairs, business and community services. Skilled in communications, stakeholder engagement, planning and development, public policy, regulation, campaign management including developing digital strategies and international partnerships. Excellent research skills, including reports, briefings, responses and commentaries. Accomplished and respected media performer in broadcast, social media, newspapers and analysis.

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

LEADERSHIP:

- Established the statutory inquiry into the Horizon Postmasters scandal, reviewing evidence from postmasters and the major court case and started the process of compensating those caught up in arguably the biggest miscarriage of justice in British courtroom history
- Launched the first government Hospitality Recovery strategy; Rolling out the Help to Grow Management Scheme which aims to develop strategic leadership in 30,000 businesses.
- Developed and executed Covid business policies – developed guidance, ensured processes in place and accessible for businesses
- Established and chaired councils and advisory boards in semiconductor, hospitality and retail sectors and on digital skills bringing together industry, government and academia to understand complex problems and co-creating solutions
- Worked up and published the government plans to ensure the UK has a resilient supply chain in semiconductors, is able to build on its own strengths in the sector whilst maintaining national security. Securing £1bn in funding over the next decade from Treasury to back up the strategy

MEDIA AND COMMUNICATIONS:

- Excellent communication skills, both verbal and written, to articulate ideas, facilitate discussions, and convey complex information clearly and concisely
- Built and maintained strong relationships with media outlets, securing regular policy and opinion placements in broadcast media, newspaper and specialist publications
- Developed and executed crisis communication strategies (e.g. Horizon, Covid), managing communication channels and responding to media inquiries in real-time, with empathy, understanding and support with clear messaging
- Skilled and accomplished media 'performer' with ability to explain complex policies, ensuring they are understandable and accessible for everyone to understand
- Skilled and regular media spokesman on policy, politics and current affairs

COLLABORATION & STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

- Ability to engage effectively with diverse stakeholders, including public and government bodies, ministers, community leaders and volunteers, employees, regulators, and individual members of the public
- Co-Chaired the London Recovery Board alongside the Mayor of London during Covid and its immediate aftermath. Implemented weekly calls with General Secretaries of Trade Unions, hospitality and retail bosses and a regular cadence of meetings with other sectors worst affected by the consequences of lockdown, including weddings, personal care and nightclubs
- Delivering a fair Local Government settlement and tackling failing councils on behalf of taxpayers including Liverpool, Thurrock and Woking, by introducing support teams to focus on turnaround and creating a new strategic vision. Launched New Faith Deal to innovate in better project delivery between faith groups and government

- Known for delivery, collaboration and working across political and diverse views, training legislation teams in the Civil Service how to work effectively with Ministers to get legislation through the Parliamentary process
- Head of the British delegations at the G7 and G20 international summits for global Tech Ministers with our negotiating team, building relationships across nations to lead the way to secure international agreement on AI and paving the way for the UK AI Safety Summit; digital public infrastructure and a multistakeholder approach to internet governance

STRATEGIC PLANNING & EXECUTION:

- Led the parliamentary process to pass 12 Acts of Parliament, ranging from changes to UK insolvency regime, the introduction of the post-Brexit UK Internal Market and the new Subsidy Control Framework, to support on commercial rents through Covid, economic sanctions and updating competition law to better tackle entrenched powers in Digital Markets
- Negotiated major changes and successfully landed the Online Safety Act, collaborating with government agencies, businesses including the major social media platforms, international policy partners, child protection charities such as NSPCC and sensitive stakeholders including the families of victims, ensuring all views were recognised and evaluated
- Developed gambling White Paper to update regulation of the betting and gambling industry, reflecting increase in online gambling, striking the balance between a liberal economy and the real risk of gambling harm, working with industry and the families of victims to agree an approach to a statutory gambling levy and frictionless affordability checks
- Pivoted the concept of Help to Grow Management from a policy concept aimed at improving UK's productivity, to a dynamic 12-week business and management support course delivered through leading business schools with a positive alumni approval of over 90%
- Secured a joined-up approach between Euston station refurbishment project and HS2 London terminal teams to have one cohesive plan which unlocked further regeneration in the neighbouring part of Camden

GOVERNANCE:

- Held government oversight of the British Business Bank, working with them to agree their strategy, designing Covid loans which supported SMEs through the difficult pandemic recovery
- Attended the UK government Fraud Board, working on a cross-government approach to assessing and tackling fraud arising from Covid business support
- Worked closely with experienced NED board members including Ron Dennis CBE, Tim Peake CMG, Saul Klein OBE and Shonnel Malani on the board of the Department for Science & Technology to set the pace of delivery for the new government department during its first year
- Ensured lessons were learned from first Whirlpool UK-wide recall as Consumer Minister. Along with establishing the Horizon enquiry, making sure that failures in governance were not repeated
- Chaired a primary school governing body through its transition to academisation; was a member of the governing body of an 'outstanding' primary school and a Further Education College and member of a project board of the design and construction of a £40m secondary school
- Experienced company director covering all filing and accounting requirements

CAREER HISTORY

CHAIR, ADIONA GIBRALTAR LTD

Summer 2024 - Beyond

House of Commons.

Chairing the board of a Managing General Agent as part of an Insurance tech start-up using smart technology and data to disrupt the motor insurance market. Bringing together my experience with small business and technology and that of the board to start a new AI-based regulated insurance company.

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR SUTTON AND CHEAM

May 2015 to Present

House of Commons.

Ambition to ensure National policies solve local problems for constituents and achievements reflect this. Winning this seat required transferable skills in a campaign lasting 2.5 years, such as marketing and communication; capacity and team building; fundraising and the appropriate deployment of

volunteers supported by the former head of the UK Border Force and Gold Command for security at the London Olympics, so essentially taking a business approach to a political environment.

Acted and campaigned as a backbench MP on a number of issues, local, national and international. Served as a member of the International Development Select committee, chairing a specialist subcommittee to optimise aid to achieve the best results for recipients, leverage other donors, further our foreign and international trade policies and ensure value for money for the taxpayer. Raised the profile of a campaign by sufferers of Cystic Fibrosis and became one of the public faces to help negotiate the start of talks between government, the NHS and a big pharmaceutical company which successfully secured life-changing drugs on the NHS. Served as a member of the British Delegation on the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe.

UK GOVERNMENT MINISTER

February 2020 - November 2023

MINISTER FOR TECH AND THE DIGITAL ECONOMY:

Oct 2022 – November 2023

Department for Science, Innovation & Technology / Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport

Responsible for UK semiconductor policy, digital skills, UK's international tech policy, legislation including Online Safety Bill and Digital Markets. Also oversaw policies for AI and gambling harm in the lead up to the publication of White Papers on each and worked with UK success stories to start to build a UK playbook for scale-ups.

MINISTER FOR LONDON:

February 2020 – November 2023

Built key relationships with London Boroughs, the Mayor's office, business and community stakeholders, working across Whitehall to sense-check government policy and its effect on London. Developed an approach for government and business to address the needs of London from three viewpoints as a global, national capital and a local city.

MINISTER FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT, FAITH & GRENFELL:

June – October 2022

Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities

Delivered a fair financial settlement for Local Government, established turnaround programmes for failing councils, set up pilot projects for closer working between faith groups and government in delivering positive community change, liaised with Grenfell families and the wider community about the future of the tower, held tall building owners to account in replacing unsafe cladding.

MINISTER FOR SMALL BUSINESS, LABOUR MARKETS & CONSUMERS:

Feb 2020-June 2022

Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (Now Department of Business & Trade)

Delivered support for small businesses, hospitality and retail during Covid including grants, business rates relief and developed safe working practices to allow the reopening of the economy, especially the most affected including nightclubs, wedding venues and the personal care sector. Oversaw the Post Office and Royal Mail. Worked to widen access to finance for entrepreneurs, primarily through oversight of the British Business Bank, delivered consistent support across the country for small businesses. Responsible for the Office of Product Safety and Standards to address issues in product recalls such as Whirlpool, and ensure that the on the ground trading effects of Brexit were minimised in our imports and exports. Oversaw outside bodies such as ACAS and the CMA.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF CONSERVATIVE PARTY (& PREVIOUSLY VICE CHAIRMAN FOR LONDON)

Oct 2017 – Feb 2020

Conservative Party

Led much of the media engagement throughout the 2019 General Election. Engaged with local diaspora and faith groups across London including Tamils, Bangladeshi, Indian, Cypriot and Jewish. This ensured both a reach into communities that the party had not invested enough time and attention, and that the party was more inclusive, diverse and approachable. Organised the Party's campaign in the 2018 Local elections in London.

PRIME MINISTER'S TRADE ENVOY FOR BRUNEI, THAILAND & MYANMAR

Oct 2017-Feb 2020

Department for International Trade (Now Department of Business & Trade)

Built relationships with governments and businesses to encourage greater bilateral investment, including helping to close a £500m helicopter deal in Thailand for the UK defence sector, which in turn secured 3,000 jobs in Yeovil; supporting microfinancing and educational programmes in Myanmar and engaged the Sultan of Brunei and his ministers on topics such as decommissioning of oil platforms and economic diversification. Worked in the UK to ensuring investors from those countries and UK companies looking to invest abroad had swift, direct support to tackle blockages.

PRIOR EXPERIENCE

FOUNDER PARTNER, PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMPANY

Feb 2011-Feb 2015

Nudge Factory Ltd

Set up a company initially developing Corporate Social Responsibility programmes for businesses. Carried out local engagement for Westfield and Hammerson in their joint venture, to secure planning permission and local business backing for their £1.5bn regeneration plans for Croydon town centre. Reorganised the community engagement for the largest McDonald's UK franchisee to establish the Appt Corporation Community Awards which included both grants and bespoke management support. Worked with property clients, on planning, public consultations and wider strategy.

SMALL BUSINESSES

1990-2005

Various

Entrepreneur, starting and running new businesses including:

- Selling financial services, recruiting, training and managing a salesforce of up to 60 people
- Chairing a small telecoms company installing networks and telecoms equipment in serviced offices and acting as a reseller for a telecoms carrier, allowing the serviced office to add an important revenue stream to their business
- Buying and refurbishing property
- Importing olive oil for the hospitality sector in London

PARLIAMENTARY ASSISTANT

2005-2011

House of Commons

Ran the office of Alok Sharma MP and Andrew Pelling MP, provided support for Shailesh Vara MP which helped me gain experience in politics.

LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION, LONDON BOROUGH OF SUTTON

2007-2010

Civic Offices, Sutton (Councillor 2006-10)

Represented my home ward on Sutton council and managed 21 councillors to scrutinise the work of the borough administration. Developed a comprehensive borough vision in a State of Sutton report.

OTHER TRAINING, EDUCATION & INTERESTS

- Next Generation course, Leadership Centre for Local Government (2009), subsequently training other future local government leaders
- Ministerial training for major projects by Infrastructure Projects Authority and Said Business School, Oxford University
- Bedford School A Levels in Chemistry and Maths
- University of Reading studying Chemistry & Food Science
- Patron of various charities
- Ran 2 London Marathons and 3 half marathons raising c. £15,000 for the Royal Marsden, Cystic Fibrosis Trust & Maggie's Centres
- Playing golf, watching rugby and walking Fred, my somewhat bouncy fox-red labrador

REFERENCES

- Paul Dreschler CBE: Former President of CBI – pjdrex@icloud.com
- Kate Willard OBE: Chair, Thames Estuary Growth Board – kate.willard@live.com