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# The Sunday Telegraph

## Greening fights for job as May wields axe

PM uses Cabinet reshuffle to shake up schools and promote new generation

By Edward Malnick  
WHITEHALL EDITOR

JUSTINE GREENING was fighting for her job last night as Theresa May prepared to appoint a new education secretary in a drive to reinvigorate the Government's approach to schools, *The Sunday Telegraph* can disclose.

Ms Greening's successor will be tasked with leading a major push to convince voters that the Conservatives are the party of education ahead of the local elections in May.

The inclusion of a new education secretary in a blueprint for a refreshed Government comes after private polling revealed that the Tories' record in the sector was a significant factor behind the party's losses in last year's general election.

However, in an indication that Ms Greening could resist any attempt to move her, the Education Secretary yesterday posted a series of messages on Twitter heralding her achievements in the role and twice declaring: "School standards are rising."

As part of a wider renewal, the Prime Minister will also today confirm that she is dropping plans to hold a vote on repealing the foxhunting ban.

She is separately expected to use this week's reshuffle to promote a series of younger MPs from diverse backgrounds.

Ms Greening's posts signal how the reshuffle will test Mrs May's apparently renewed strength as Tory leader after securing a "first round" agreement in Brexit negotiations with the European

Union, and putting a series of damaging Cabinet scandals behind her.

Ms Greening, like other ministers facing a downward move, could resist a demotion or threaten to cause problems for the Prime Minister on the back benches.

Mrs May is also understood to be preparing to promote a number of MPs from the 2015 intake, after accepting that the Government is in need of fresh faces, as well as a more diverse cast of ministers and aides.

The drive could see younger MPs rewarded with government aide posts after a difficult six months for Mrs May, as well as possible promotions for existing aides.

Ms Greening has been identified as vulnerable in recent weeks, along with Greg Clark, the Business Secretary, Sir Patrick McLoughlin, the party chairman, and Andrea Leadsom, the Leader of the Commons.

Meanwhile, promotions are expected for figures such as Brandon Lewis, the immigration minister, and Dominic Raab, the justice minister. One possibility is for Mr Raab, a prominent Brexititeer, to be moved to replace Mr Lewis in the immigration brief, which would see him attend Cabinet and take over responsibility for steering the Government's planned immigration Bill through the Commons.

Yesterday, the *Telegraph* revealed that Mrs May is intending to promote Jeremy Hunt, the Health Secretary, to replace Damian Green at the Cabinet Office, but considering delaying the

*Continued on Page 5*

## Women in black



Jessica Chastain, who is nominated for the best actress Golden Globe, wears a T-shirt backing the Time's Up campaign against sexual harassment. Dozens of actresses will wear black at the Globes tonight in the wake of the Hollywood sex scandal *Report: Page 3*

## Worboys case forces end to parole secrecy

By Edward Malnick  
and Olivia Rudgard

VICTIMS of one of Britain's most prolific sex offenders may learn why he was released from prison as ministers promise today to end secrecy around parole hearings.

*The Sunday Telegraph* understands that Nick Hardwick, chairman of the Parole Board, is considering publishing the rationale behind a three-member panel's decision to release John Worboys, the black cab rapist, from prison.

It comes as David Lidington, the Justice Secretary, pledges to introduce "greater openness" around the decision-making process for future cases to ensure "full confidence" in the system.

Mr Lidington said he had held talks with Prof Hardwick, "about what changes we could make to help victims of crime and provide greater transparency about the Board's work".

The announcement follows the body's decision, made public on *Continued on Page 2*

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## Pubs to stay open late for royal wedding

By Edward Malnick

THE country may not be getting a bank holiday to celebrate the wedding of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle, but at least it will be able to stay in the pub for longer.

Pubs will be allowed to do away with the usual curbs on opening hours on the weekend of the royal wedding, under plans announced today.

Ministers plan to extend licensing hours across Britain to allow venues to remain open until lam on the nights of Friday May 18 and Saturday 19 – the day of the wedding and the FA Cup final.

The last time a similar measure was taken was for the Queen's 90th birthday in 2016, which coincided with two European Championship matches. Hours were also extended for the 2014 World Cup and the 2011 wedding of the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge.

The plan was welcomed by the British Beer and Pub Association, which said extended hours would bring a £10 million boost to the trade.

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## NHS workers told to have flu jab amid threat of epidemic

By Laura Donnelly HEALTH EDITOR

NHS trusts are failing to get medical workers to have flu jabs amid warnings that a French epidemic could spread to Britain, a *Sunday Telegraph* analysis has found.

Health officials are pleading with NHS staff to have the jab as figures show as few as one in three workers have been vaccinated at one hospital.

Public health officials urged staff to protect themselves and their patients amid warnings that flu has reached epidemic levels across the Channel.

It comes amid a deepening NHS winter crisis, with 24 hospital trusts declaring "black alerts" last week, as pressures threatened to overwhelm them, and thousands of patients stuck in ambulances outside hospitals as flu rates soar. Experts say around one

quarter of NHS staff will contract flu during a typical season. Of those, about half are likely to remain in work, spreading infections.

The warnings follow a study by Imperial College London, which found every 10 per cent increase in NHS vaccination rates was linked with a 10 per cent fall in sickness absence.

In a typical flu season, NHS staff take around 4.3 million sick days. The figure

could be reduced by more than one quarter if all trusts matched the vaccination rates of the best, the findings suggest.

On Thursday, public health officials in France issued an alert warning that flu has now reached epidemic levels in every region of the country. It has *Continued on Page 2*

*Janet Daley: Page 20*

*'I'm doing dry January. I've given up coffee because disposable cups are so harmful'*

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