

Politician

What is it?

A politician is an individual elected or appointed to represent the public and make decisions on their behalf. Politicians work at various levels, from local government to national and international positions, shaping policies, passing laws, and addressing issues that affect their constituents.

Qualifications/Experience Required:

Many politicians have a degree in fields such as politics, law, economics, history, or public administration.

Volunteering or working in roles related to politics, such as campaign work, public speaking, or advocacy, can be beneficial. Strong communication, problem-solving, and leadership skills are essential.

What the Work Involves:

Representing constituents' interests and concerns. Developing and debating policies on a wide range of issues. Attending meetings, events, and public engagements to stay informed and connected with the community. Participating in elections by campaigning, canvassing, and promoting political ideas and policies. Working with colleagues, advisors, and staff to draft legislation, policies, or speeches. Responding to constituents' inquiries, resolving issues, and offering support. Engaging with media and public platforms to communicate policies and political positions.

Future Prospects – Labour Market Information:

The demand for politicians depends on elections and political cycles. Local councils, devolved administrations, and Parliament regularly hold elections, creating opportunities for new candidates. The competition can be intense, and success often depends on public support and effective campaigning.

Local Politician - Average annual Salary - £ 7,000 - £20,000

Member of Parliament – average is £86,584

Typical weekly hours – 39 up to 70+ hours

Type of person who may be suited to this job:

You must be passionate about public service and making a difference in society. Strong communication and interpersonal skills to connect with a wide range of people. Are persuasive and skilled at debating and negotiation. Be able to handle public scrutiny, criticism, and pressure.

Money/Wage Guide:

Local Councillor: Typically earns between £7,000 and £20,000 per year.

Member of Parliament (MP): Basic annual salary is around £86,584 (2024)

Senior Positions: Salaries for Cabinet Ministers or the Prime Minister range from £140,000 to £165,000.

Related Opportunities:

- Political Advisor:
- Civil Servant:
- Campaign Manager:
- Community Organiser:

Further Information:

UK Parliament Careers:

[Work at UK Parliament - UK Parliament](#)

Local Government Association (LGA):

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