

# Iain Duncan Smith

Duncan Smith in 2020

**Sir George Iain Duncan Smith** (born 9 April 1954 in [Edinburgh](#), Scotland) is a [British politician](#) who is the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions from 2016 - 2016. He was the leader of the [Conservative Party](#) from September 2001 to November 2003 and is the [Member of Parliament](#) (MP) for the [constituency](#) of Chingford and Woodford Green.

Iain Duncan Smith served in the [Scottish](#) part of the [British Army](#), the [Scots' Guard](#) from 1975 to 1981. He became a [Conservative Party](#) MP at the 1992 General Election for the constituency of Chingford (called Chingford and Woodford Green from 1997). He became a member of [William Hague](#)'s shadow cabinet in 1997 and became Shadow Defence Secretary in 1999. When Hague resigned in 2001, Iain Duncan Smith was elected leader of the Conservative Party, defeating [Kenneth Clarke](#) and [Michael Portillo](#). In November 2003, Conservative Party MPs passed a Vote of No Confidence in Iain Duncan Smith because they believed he could not win the [general election](#). He was replaced by [Michael Howard](#). After the [2010 General Election](#), Iain Duncan Smith was made the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions. He resigned in March 2016.<sup>[1]</sup>

Iain Duncan Smith was the first leader of the Conservative Party to have been [Roman Catholic](#) and was the first to have been born in [Scotland](#) since [Arthur Balfour](#).

## References

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- ↑ "'A compromise too far': Iain Duncan Smith's resignation letter in full". *The Guardian*. Guardian. 19 March 2016. Retrieved 19 March 2016.

## Other websites

[[change](#) | [change source](#)]

- [Official site](#)

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