



Craig Whittaker MP

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Response to Honours system – February 2017

Thank you for contacting me about the UK honours system.

The honours system recognises those who have made exceptional achievements, and given exceptional service.

I am pleased that the Cabinet Office has worked with other Government Departments and the Honours Selection Committees to step up its outreach efforts, and will continue to do so in order to increase the openness and transparency of the system.

Automatic honours are no longer awarded to anyone apart from High Court judges on appointment. I believe it is right to continue to reward those whose achievements and service have been exceptional, whatever their field.

Anyone can nominate someone for an honour and all Honours Committees have a majority of independent members. More detail can be found online here: www.gov.uk/honours.

I completely agree that George Johnson would be excellent choice for a knighthood and that the awarding of such an honour would be highly symbolic given the circumstances. Although I don't have any jurisdiction within the honours process I would certainly welcome Mr Johnson receiving such an award and I know that many people have written to the Honours Committee expressing their support for this campaign.

Thank you again for taking the time to contact me.

Kind regards,

Craig Whittaker MP