

Women in Power: Milestones

1907	First woman councillor elected in Britain – Reina Emily Lawrence
1918	Women over 30 have the right to vote
1918	Parliamentary Qualification of Women Act passed – enabling women to stand as a Members of Parliament
1919	First woman to take a seat in Parliament – Nancy Astor
1928	Vote given to women on same terms as men
1958	Life Peerages Act entitles women to sit in House of Lords Lady Reading and Baroness Barbara Wooton first to take seats
1960	First female Head of Government – Sirimavo Bandaranaike, Prime Minister of Sri Lanka
1970	Equal Pay Act
1975	Sex Discrimination Act
1976	Shreela Flather elected first Asian woman councillor in Britain
1979	UK's first woman Prime Minister
1981	Baroness Young becomes first woman Leader of the House of Lords
1984	Britain's first black female mayor – Lydia Simmons, Slough
1987	Diane Abbott elected first black woman MP
1990	Baroness Flather is the first female Asian peer
1997	First BME female government Minister – Patricia Scotland
1997	Proportion of women MPs doubles to reach 18%
1998	Baroness Uddin is the first Muslim woman in the House of Lords
1999	UK's first Asian female MEP – Neena Gill
2002	Introduction of Sex Discrimination (Election Candidates) Act
2003	Baroness Amos is the first black woman appointed to Cabinet
2003	Baroness Amos is first black woman Leader of the House of Lords
2006	Work and Families Act
2007	Baroness Scotland is first black woman Attorney General
2007	100 years since first woman councillor appointed
2008	90 years since women over age of 30 secured the vote
2008	80 years since women had vote on equal terms as men

