

Funding the Future

The dishonourable Boris Johnson

Published: January 13, 2026, 7:58 am

I posted this on Twitter a few days ago:



Richard Murphy

@RichardJMurphy

...

Boris Johnson is still 'The Right Honourable'. Shouldn't his membership of the Privy Council now be removed?

8:01 PM · Jun 15, 2023 · 45.4K Views

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I now note this has also been posted on Twitter:



Sam Webber

@samdwebber

...

In today's [@thetimes](#) letters, [@Conservatives](#) party historian and member of the [@UKHouseofLords](#), Lord Lexden, calls for Boris Johnson to be removed from the Privy Council: "which would stop him calling himself right honourable (which he plainly is not)."

Sir, In June 1963 Jack Profumo was removed from the privy council for giving a false statement to parliament. Exactly 60 years later Boris Johnson should suffer the same penalty, which would stop him calling himself right honourable (which he plainly is not). If some of the many minions he put on the Privy Council chose to resign in protest, it would not matter in the least. This ancient institution now has over 750 members, some 400 more than 60 years ago. It could do with slimming, like the House of Lords.

Lord Lexden

Conservative Party historian

The Rest Is Politics and 5 others

1:06 AM · Jun 17, 2023 · 7,066 Views

I entirely and unsurprisingly, in view of the earlier comment, agree with Lord Lexden.

Today the Commons will debate the Privileges Committee report into Johnson having misled the House of Commons on multiple occasions, but the only sanction that they have left available to them is to remove his pass to the Parliamentary estate in Westminster. I suspect that this is of no consequence to him, and is it best a token gesture.

On the other hand, removing Johnson's membership of the Privy Council, in turn stripping him of the right to claim the title 'The Right Honourable' (which he clearly is not), would I imagine, hurt him a great deal. He would be reduced to being plain Mr Johnson, and rightly so because he has demonstrated himself to be unfit to be privy to anything. I hope that happens.