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9TH ANNUAL ROLL CALL – How Our MPs Performed In 2013

After another turbulent political year, which has seen a new Labour leader emerge, and several Ministerial resignations, Trans Tasman's Editors have once again run their rule over NZ's MPs and rated their performance in 2013. Roll Call looks at how they've performed in Caucus, Cabinet, Committee, the House, their electorate and the influence they bring, or are likely, to bring to bear in their various forums. The MPs are ranked for their full year performance by Trans Tasman's highly respected team of Capital insiders.

Cabinet Ministers					
Name	Seat/list	Responsibilities	Comments	2012 Rating	This Year's Rating
<i>Key, John</i>	Helensville	Prime Minister Minister of Tourism Minister Responsible for Ministerial Services Minister in Charge of the NZ Security Intelligence Service Minister Responsible for the Government Communications Security Bureau	Still remarkably popular for a second term PM, but not as bouncy and spontaneous as he was a while ago, and he's learned to be a lot more cautious with the media. The opposition's ranting attacks show they know he's the one who can undo their 2014 election campaign, meanwhile he's recognised the vital importance of coalition partners.	8	8.5
<i>English, Bill</i>	Clutha-Southland	Deputy Prime Minister Minister of Finance	A quiet achiever who will deliver the Govt's promised surplus next year. Prodigous work on policy development and money management, never gets in John Key's way and has no leadership ambitions. He's driven reforms in the way the state sector delivers services, which may be the Govt's lasting legacy.	7.5	9
<i>Brownlee, Gerry</i>	Ilam	Leader of the House Minister Responsible for the Earthquake Commission Minister for Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Minister of Transport	Being responsible for rebuilding a quake-stricken city would severely test anyone. Frustration showed through as he fielded EQC blunders and dealt with the shortcomings of cumbersome bureaucracies. He knows history - and Christchurch - will judge him. Give him a break.	7.5	7
<i>Joyce, Steven</i>	List	Minister for Economic Development Minister of Science and Innovation Minister for Tertiary Education, Skills and Employment Associate Minister of Finance	If it's too hard for anyone else, give it to Joyce and he'll fix it. Has his hands on many levers within the huge Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment although the jury is out on whether creating such a behemoth was a great idea. Close to Key, a good communicator and comfortable with the media. He's had a good year.	7	7.5
<i>Collins, Judith</i>	Papakura	Minister of Justice Minister for ACC Minister for Ethnic Affairs	Continues to brim with confidence. Brings a hard line to Justice giving no space to the opposition on law and order issues. Continues to reform the justice system, but not all of it has gone smoothly. Relishes the dynamics of Question Time.	7.5	7.5
<i>Ryall, Tony</i>	Bay of Plenty	Minister of Health Minister for State Owned Enterprises	Colleagues describe him as a control freak, which he is - not unusual in the Beehive. Keeps his health portfolio under tight control. State Owned Enterprises didn't go so well, took a pasting over Solid Energy and shares responsibility with English for the less than stellar asset sales.	7.5	7
<i>Parata, Hekia</i>	List	Minister of Education Minister of Pacific Island Affairs	Looked a bit more comfortable in Parliament, but it would have been hard not to improve on last year's performance. Bringing in old MSD boss Peter Hughes to steady the ship will help, though if she can't work with him, Parata will have proved she can't work with anybody. Management and communication have improved - enjoys' the PM's confidence.	2	5
<i>Finlayson, Chris</i>	List	Attorney-General Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage Associate Minister of Maori Affairs	The momentum of treaty settlements has continued to grow. The Tuhoe deal was thought by many to be impossible, but it has been achieved. Can be witty and cutting in Parliament, lets himself down by being nasty when he's provoked. A complicated man	8	7.5

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<i>Bennett, Paula</i>	Waitakere	Minister for Social Development Associate Minister of Housing	Succeeded in pushing far reaching welfare reforms through the House unanimously. Has performed well in the media.	7	7.5
<i>Coleman, Jonathan</i>	Northcote	Minister of Defence Minister of State Services Associate Minister of Finance	Has the ear of the PM and carried through restructuring of the Defence Force, not all of which took place on his watch, but for which he copped some of the criticism.	6	6.5
<i>McCully, Murray</i>	East Coast Bays	Minister of Foreign Affairs Minister for Sport and Recreation	His year has been pretty much dominated by the push to get NZ a place on the Security Council, if this succeeds it will truly be a diplomatic triumph. Must also get some credit for maintaining the momentum in the relationship with both China and the US. Has flown the NZ flag in places none of his predecessors bothered with.	6.5	6.5
<i>Tolley, Anne</i>	East Coast	Deputy Leader of the House Minister of Police Minister of Corrections	A much better year. There were doubts whether she could handle police and corrections but she has, and looks as though she's enjoying it. Better with the media too.	5.5	6.5
<i>Smith, Nick</i>	Nelson	Minister of Conservation Minister of Housing	His roller-coaster ride in politics continued this year with a return to Cabinet and his beloved Conservation portfolio. Brought a new vigour and energy to the Housing portfolio which was just what Key demanded. Smith has certainly thrown himself back into the fray.	5.5	7
<i>Groser, Tim</i>	List	Minister of Trade Minister for Climate Change Issues Associate Minister of Foreign Affairs	The most remarkable thing is Groser's colleagues are actually starting to warm to him. His failure to win the WTO job was a disappointment, but it was always an unlikely prospect.	7.5	7.5
<i>Adams, Amy</i>	Selwyn	Minister for the Environment Minister for Communications and Information Technology Associate Minister for Canterbury Earthquake Recovery	Has a sharp mind, but dealing with some difficult issues in the Environment and Conservation portfolios. Excellent at fobbing off stupid questions as well as good ones. RMA reforms and the broadband roll out will test her.	7	6.5
<i>Guy, Nathan</i>	Otaki	Minister for Primary Industries Minister for Racing	Leaden delivery, leaden performance. Too often appears to be a mouthpiece for his officials, it would be good if he showed he was capable of saying something he had thought of himself.	5	4
<i>Foss, Craig</i>	Tukituki	Minister of Commerce Minister of Broadcasting Minister of Consumer Affairs Associate Minister for ACC	Foss's reputation is still to recover from the NovaPay fiasco and may never do so. A nice smart guy, but English's patronage is unlikely to protect him forever.	4	4
<i>Tremain, Chris</i>	Napier	Minister of Internal Affairs Minister of Local Government Associate Minister of Tourism	His decision to leave Parliament took most by surprise as he was performing well in what are some of the less demanding portfolios and was probably due for promotion.	5	6
<i>Bridges, Simon</i>	Tauranga	Minister of Energy & Recourses Minister of Labour Associate Minister for Climate Change Issues	On top of his portfolios and won rare praise from unions for his mine safety legislation. Doesn't suffer fools or critics easily, needs to tidy up his reaction because it's sometimes seen as arrogance, which it isn't. On the way up.	6	6.5
<i>Kaye, Nikki</i>	Auckland Central	Minister for Food Satefy Minister for Civil Defence Minister of Youth Affairs Associate Minister of Education Associate Minister of Immigration	Surprised some of her colleagues who thought she was too young for the job. Helped front the Govt's response to the Fonterra contamination crisis, which wasn't easy, and did it well. Smart and articulate. Another one on the way up.	5.5	6.5
Ministers Outside Cabinet					
<i>Williamson, Maurice</i>	Pakuranga	Minister for Building and Construction Minister of Customs Minister for Land Information Minister of Statistics	Gets points for the first NZ politician to go viral after his speech in the marriage equality debate in Parliament. Muddled over a shot at the Auckland mayoralty in the wake of his new profile but decided discretion was better than valour. Solid and dependable still very media shy.	5.5	6

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<i>Goodhew, Jo</i>	Rangitata	Minister for the Community and Voluntary Sector Minister for Senior Citizens Minister of Women's Affairs Associate Minister of Health Associate Minister of Primary Industries	Earnest, solid and boring but she's got some deadly dull portfolios. Handles delegated minor health issues and she's done well with them, the rest is off the radar. Should have more to say for herself on women's affairs. Completely missed the gender pay gap.	5	4
<i>Borrows, Chester</i>	Whanganui	Minister for Courts Associate Minister of Justice Associate Minister for Social Development	Hard working and thorough, deserves promotion. Experience as a police officer shows through, he knows what he's talking about and is respected in Parliament.	6.5	6
<i>Woodhouse, Michael</i>	List	Minister of Immigration Minister of Veterans Affairs Associate Minister of Transport	Promoted from whip to a Minister after a solid job and continued to perform in a similar vein. Immigration has been the undoing of many a Minister but has not tripped him up so far. Will be knocking on the Cabinet door. One to watch.	6	6
<i>McClay, Todd</i>	Rotorua	Revenue Minister Associate Health Minister	Seamless takeover of Psychoactive Substances Bill from Peter Dunne, and now starting to impress at IRD as well. Its IT upgrade will test him, there's potential for a catastrophe.	4	5.5
SUPPORT PARTY MINISTERS					
<i>Sharples, Pita</i>	Tamaki Makarau	Minister of Maori Affairs Associate Minister of Corrections Associate Minister of Education	The fire has gone out. Hung on to the Maori Party co-leadership for too long and hasn't tackled tough issues facing his department. Worthy ambitions for Maori, he's done his bit and it's time to go.	5	3
<i>Turia, Tariana</i>	Te Tai Hauauru	Minister for Whanau Ora Minister for Disability Issues Associate Minister of Health Associate Minister of Housing Associate Minister for Social Development Associate Minister for Tertiary Education, Skills and Employment	Devoting her life to Whanau Ora but most people probably still don't understand how it works or what it's achieving. There's a belief she might still change her mind about retiring at the next election - she's going to leave her party in the lurch when she goes and it could slide into obscurity. One less partner for National.	6	6.5
National Back Benchers					
<i>Auchinvole, Chris</i>	List		One of Parliament's nice guys, a good speaker in the House. Probably gave the best speech in the marriage equality debate only to be overshadowed by Maurice Williamson. Does good work in Select Committees.	4	5
<i>Ardern, Shane</i>	Taranaki-King Country		Competent but barely noticeable in parliament, it will be a surprise if he resists National's rejuvenation push	4	4
<i>Bakshi, Kanwaljit</i>	List		Has slightly improved his delivery in the House, but coming from a very low base. Gets points for fighting back when mocked in Parliament.	1	3
<i>Barry, Maggie</i>	North Shore		Really, really, really wants to be a minister.	4	3
<i>Bennett, David</i>	Hamilton East		An able Select Committee chair, his performance in the House tends to default to partisan hackery. Has a good brain, he should use it more.	4	3.5
<i>Calder, Cam</i>	List		Only made headlines when he announced he was leaving Parliament.	3	3
<i>Carter, David</i>	List	Speaker	Rocky road when he took the Speaker's chair but he's getting on top of it and winning respect in the House. Opposition worked him over in the beginning but he came through it and says he's enjoying the job. Carter has the makings of another very good Speaker from National's ranks.	6.5	7
<i>Dean, Jacqui</i>	Waitaki		One of National's better backbenchers. Once again a candidate for promotion, but once again find herself left out.	4	5

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<i>Foster-Bell, Paul</i>	List		Newcomer to Parliament after the departure of Jackie Blue. Rated by many, yet to show why.	N/A	3
<i>Goldsmith, Paul</i>	List		Has taken the middle ground from Labour with the Personal Grievance Bill. Has brains and wit. Could be his generation's Simon Upton which is not entirely a bad thing.	4	6.5
<i>Hauti, Claudette</i>	List		Aaron Gilmore's political demise brought Hauti into Parliament - a sign of National's diversification. Needs to be more than a symbol.	N/A	3
<i>Hayes, John</i>	Wairarapa		Tends to let his ego get on top of him which manifests itself in speeches where he is responsible for most of NZ's diplomatic triumphs.	4	4
<i>Heatley, Phil</i>	Whangarei		Graceful acceptance of being fired from cabinet, Nick Smith has shown how to handle housing.	4	2
<i>Henare, Tau</i>	List		Unpredictable, feisty, amusing and a lurking loose cannon. Handled himself well this year though, able chair of Maori Affairs Select Committee which has a big workload. Gets a bit over-excited in the House at times but he's good value. Gets points for chutzpah.	4	5
<i>Hutchison, Paul</i>	Hunua		Chaired the Health Select Committee exceptionally well. Leaving after an earnest career. He'll be missed.	5.5	6
<i>King, Colin</i>	Kaikoura		Will find it hard to resist competition for his seat and his list ranking will not save him.	4	3
<i>Lee, Melissa</i>	List		Has to be commended for her energy and willingness around Parliament and in Auckland, but probably doomed to be forever a foot soldier.	2	3.5
<i>Sam Lotu-Liga, Peseta</i>	Maungakiekie		Works hard in his electorate but has never lived up to expectations in Parliament. Drifting into nowhere unless he livens up.	5	4
<i>McKelvie, Ian</i>	Rangitikei		Affable bloke, who is very effective in Caucus and very well regarded by colleagues.	3	4
<i>Macindoe, Tim</i>	Hamilton West		Doing a solid job as junior whip, next job is probably senior whip when Louise Upston gets promoted.	4	5
<i>Mitchell, Mark</i>	Rodney		His success in getting a Bill through the House banning gang patches on council or Govt property went down well amongst National supporters. A safe electorate and time is on his side.	4	6
<i>Ngaro, Alfred</i>	List		Really needs to do something other than lavish praise on every Govt Bill in the House. Needs to start showing some substance.	4.5	4
<i>O'Connor, Simon</i>	Tamaki		Bright, articulate, but yet to show quite why he deserved the Tamaki seat.	3	3
Ross, Jamie- Lee	Botany		Pretty good rabble rouser, doesn't leave anyone in doubt about why he's a Nat. Shows promise.	3	4
<i>Roy, Eric</i>	Invercargill	Deputy Speaker	An able deputy speaker, courteous and manages to keep his temper in the most trying circumstances most of the time. Retiring and will be missed around Parliament.	5	5.5
<i>Sabin, Mike</i>	Northland		Confident speaker, but really Mike everyone knows you were a policeman and there is no need to mention it every second sentence.	4	5
<i>Shanks, Katrina</i>	List		Never had much chance to show her talent but didn't try very hard, and now she's retiring. Easily forgotten.	4	3.5

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<i>Simpson, Scott</i>	Coromandel		Makes no impact in the House. Must get noticed.	2	2
<i>Tisch, Lindsay</i>	Waikato	Assistant Speaker	A capable but somewhat tetchy Assistant Speaker. Long serving and may face a challenge in his seat.	5	4.5
<i>Upston, Louise</i>	Taupo		Made a good fist as of the Senior Whip. Can be quite fierce which may assist her as she knocks on a Ministerial office door.	6	6.5
<i>Wagner, Nicky</i>	Christchurch Central		Was handed the role of Parliamentary Private Secretary to Gerry Brownlee in the Canterbury Earthquake Recovery portfolio and to Nick Smith in Conservation. Might hope for more, but it could be as good as it gets.	4	4.5
<i>Wilkinson, Kate</i>	Waimakariri		John Key rated her and she was one of his rare mistakes. Demoted from cabinet - politics wasn't really her thing. Serving time until she stands down in 2014.	3	2.5
<i>Yang, Jian</i>	List		Continues to be the quiet academic.	2	3
<i>Young, Jonathan</i>	New Plymouth		Another disappointment. Lifting his game but a Committee Chairmanship is as far as he'll go.	5	4
United Future					
<i>Dunne, Peter</i>	Ohariu		Lost his ministerial portfolio and, for a while, his party as well after some serious brain fades. Bounced back though and at year end was claiming to be a born-again politician. He'll stand again in Ohariu and despite all the trauma he could hold it - with a bit of help from National. Loses points for appalling judgment calls but we think he'll be back.	6.5	4
ACT					
<i>Banks, John</i>	Epsom		Pushed Charter schools through the House. A media magnet for all the wrong reasons. Huge political liability for National with Key forced to defend him. Another problem the PM didn't need. Determined to stand again in Epsom but issues still to be decided could thwart that.	0	1
Maori					
<i>Sharple, Pita</i>	Tamaki Makarau	See Support Party Ministers			
<i>Turia Tariana</i>	Te Tai Hauauru	See Support Party Ministers			
<i>Flavell, Te Ururoa</i>	Waiariki		The coming election will be a real test for him and his supporters.	6	6
Mana Party					
<i>Harawira, Hone</i>	Te Tai Tokerau		Continues to be a rare sight in the House and everyone presumes he is doing the work he needs to do get his party over the line.	4.5	2.5
Labour Front Bench					
<i>Cunliffe, David</i>	New Lynn	Leader	Due to changes in Labour's rules managed to pull off the unthinkable and become leader despite many in the caucus not wanting him. He is clever, articulate and a good communicator. Has the potential to be the next PM, but he will only get the one shot. Caucus has no choice but to get behind him. The great fear is he could still be an accident waiting to happen.	4.5	7.5

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<i>Parker, David</i>	List	Deputy Leader Finance Shadow Attorney General	Experienced, articulate and good-humoured his biggest challenge will be convincing business a Labour/Green Govt would not harm the economy.	6.5	7
<i>Robertson, Grant</i>	Wellington Central	Shadow Leader of the House Spokesperson for Employment, Skills and Training, Tertiary Education Associate Arts, Culture & Heritage, SIS	Weak leadership campaign - failure has not led to any bitterness. One of Parliament's best speakers needs to develop some policy and attack points to take on Joyce more.	6	6
<i>King, Annette</i>	Rongotai	Spokesperson for Health	She's standing again and has her sights set on another stint as Health Minister. Energetic in the house, good connections in the health sector.	6	7
<i>Jones, Shane</i>	List	Spokesperson for Economic Development, Maori Affairs, Forestry, Building & Construction Associate Fisheries and Associate Finance	Economic development is a big job and he isn't doing it in the House. Jones vs Joyce - no contest. Where's the policy promotion, Shane? Must David Parker do it all? Leadership challenge raised his profile but there's no follow up.	4	5
<i>Ardern, Jacinda</i>	List	Spokesperson for Children, Police, Corrections and Arts, Culture & Heritage	Clever with a strong support base in Labour. Retention of a high ranking combined with a strange mix of portfolios could be a sign the party is not really sure how to make the best use of her. Cleaned up by Bennett - no sign of policy work.	5	4.5
<i>Cosgrove, Clayton</i>	List	Spokesperson for State Owned Enterprises, Commerce, Earthquake Commission Associate Finance	Regaining an electorate seat could be vital to his long-term future because the party will not give him a high ranking.	4	5
<i>Hipkins, Chris</i>	Rimutaka	Spokesperson for Education, Early Childhood Education	One of David Shearer's champions, but Cunliffe kept him. Smart move. Highly capable attack MP gives Hekia Parata a hard time.	5.5	7
<i>Mahuta, Nanaia</i>	Hauraki-Waikato	Spokesperson for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations, Maori Development (post-settlement issues) Associate Regional Development Associate Innovation, Research, and Development	Virtually invisible in Parliament when she had the education portfolio, nothing much has changed.	2	3
<i>Moroney, Sue</i>	List	Chief Whip Spokesperson for Social Development	Made chief whip which is a full time job in a fractious caucus, but also has Social Development - a big ask, and she's struggling a bit.	3	4
<i>Twyford, Phil</i>	Te Atatu	Spokesperson for Housing, Auckland Issues Associate Environment (cities)	Capable and a good communicator. Genuinely passionate about housing.	4	5.5
<i>Street, Maryan</i>	List	Spokesperson for State Services Associate Foreign Affairs (ODA / human rights) Disarmament & Arms Control	Making little impact. Barely landed a punch in health. Clever, but doesn't go out of her way to show it.	3	3.5
<i>Shearer, David</i>	Mt Albert	Spokesperson for Foreign Affairs, Energy and Resources	Was put out of his misery as leader. Really up to him now to make something of his political career. Should do the policy work and rebuild.	4	3
<i>Sio, Su'a William</i>	Mangere	Spokesperson for Pacific Island Affairs, Local Government, Interfaith Dialogue Associate Social Development	Does a nice line in righteous indignation, finding it hard balancing his and his constituents social values with Labour's more liberal agenda.	2	4
<i>Goff, Phil</i>	Mt Roskill	Spokesperson for Defence, Trade, Ethnic Affairs, Veterans' Affairs Associate Foreign Affairs	Some in Labour feel he should move on, but his experience could be an asset to what would be a pretty inexperienced Cabinet should Labour win. One of Labour's best MPs, vast experience shows.	6.5	7
<i>Wall, Louisa</i>	Manurewa	Spokesperson for Youth Affairs, the Voluntary & Community Sector Associate Social Development Associate Sport and Recreation Associate Auckland Issues (South Auckland)	Has won a large support base within Labour for her adroit management of the Marriage Equality Bill. May be finding it a hard act to follow and she's letting things slide. Needs a new mission.	4	5.5
<i>Little, Andrew</i>	List	Spokesperson for Justice, Labour	Big reputation - is it justified? Failing to hit Collins most of the time. Still very union-oriented.	5	4.5
<i>Mackey, Moana</i>	List	Spokesperson for Science, Environment, Climate Change Associate Health	Capable, but can she come up with environment and science policy which stands apart from both National and the Greens.	3	4

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<i>O'Connor, Damien</i>	West Coast -Tasman	Spokesperson for Primary Industries, Fisheries, Biosecurity, Food Safety	Good right-wing Labour man, stuck it to the government over Fonterra's crisis and works hard on biosecurity. Helps balance the caucus, says what he thinks. Valuable.	5	6
<i>Clark, David</i>	Dunedin North	Spokesperson for Revenue, Small Business Associate Finance Associate Health	Sadly sliding into partisan hyperbole after a good start. Sometimes it works, doing it all the time is boring.	5	5
<i>Lees-Galloway, Iain</i>	Palmerston North	Junior Whip Spokesperson for ACC Associate Health	Was a bit adrift until his MMP bill came out the ballot - at just the right time. Good speaker who could handle better portfolios.	3.5	5
<i>Fafoi, Kris</i>	Mana	Spokesperson for Broadcasting Associate Pacific Island Affairs Associate Communications and IT	Seems to enjoy his job, but needs to start working harder unless he wants to get a reputation for being a light weight.	4	3.5
<i>Beaumont, Carol</i>	List	Assistant Whip Spokesperson for Women's Affairs, Consumer Rights & Standards Associate Labour	Made a return to Parliament when Charles Chauvel left. Represents union views with vigour and energy. Perhaps a bit one dimensional.	N/A	3
<i>Woods, Megan</i>	Wigram	Spokesperson for Innovation, Research, and Development Associate Transport, Associate Education (Christchurch), Associate Tertiary Education	Difficult lead portfolio, doesn't seem to have got her head around it yet. Should speak more in the House, she's good at it.	4	4
<i>Fenton, Darien</i>	List	Transport Spokesperson, Tourism Associate Labour, Associate Culture & Heritage, Associate Immigration	In many ways she embodies Labour's problems. Her main portfolio is transport and you rarely hear her talking about it. Not cabinet material.	3	3
<i>Robertson, Ross</i>	Manukau East	Assistant Speaker Spokesperson for Racing Associate Disarmament and Arms Control	Handles Assistant Speaker role well. One of the old guard who accepts his time has gone. Sterling service to Parliament - a gong in order?	5	5
<i>Mallard, Trevor</i>	Hutt South	Spokesperson for Internal Affairs, Sport and Recreation, the America's Cup Associate Finance	Should be given more to do. Many in Labour want him gone. They will lose. He'll be back and he's determined to be Speaker.	5.5	4.5
<i>Dyson, Ruth</i>	Port Hills	Spokesperson for Conservation, Senior Citizens, Disability Issues, Canterbury Earthquake Recovery, Land Information	Long-time survivor, she's rejuvenation material but she isn't going anywhere. Enjoys conservation.	2	4
<i>Curran, Clare</i>	Dunedin South	Spokesperson for Civil Defence & Emergency Management, Open Government Associate Regional Development, Associate Communications and IT, Associate Economic Development (procurement)	No get out of jail free card for this Cunliffe opponent. Demoted and lost the lead communications portfolio. Took it well though and she's still making waves in the House.	4.5	4
<i>Prasad, Rajen</i>	List	Spokesperson on Immigration Associate Ethnic Affairs, Associate Social Development (CYFS)	He managed to put out one press release this year and it was a joint one.	1	1
<i>Huo, Raymond</i>	List	Spokesperson for Statistics Associate Ethnic Affairs, Associate Justice Associate Education (Export Education) Associate Building and Construction	Enthusiastically continues to harass Maurice Williamson on building issues and caused real problems for the Govt on plumbing issues, but the rest of the world did not notice. A serious student of complex legislation, stunningly boring speaker.	2	4
<i>Tirikatene, Rino</i>	Te Tai Tonga	Spokesperson for Customs Associate Maori Affairs, Associate Forestry Associate Small Business	Seems nervous in Parliament. Was expected to make an impact but hasn't. Really needs to raise his game.	3	2.5
<i>Whaitiri, Meka</i>	Ikaroa-Rawhiti	Spokesperson for Water Associate Local Government Associate Regional Development Associate Primary Industries	Parekura Horomia's mana and dedication to Maori and Labour ideals is hard to follow. Whaitiri hasn't found the path yet, give her time.	N/A	4
Greens					
<i>Browning, Steffan</i>	List		Very earnest and very committed, but gives the impression Parliament might not quite be the right environment for him.	2	3

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<i>Delahunty, Catherine</i>	List		Inability to even contemplate compromise on anything would make her a real liability in Govt.	2	3
<i>Clendon, David</i>	List		His delivery in Parliament has improved, but still very leaden. Unlikely to set the world on fire.	2	2.5
<i>Genter, Julie Ann</i>	List		An irrepressible gadfly in Gerry Brownlee's ear on transport issues. Really likes bikes.	3.5	4
<i>Graham, Kennedy</i>	List		Another solid performance in Parliament, talks sense most of the time.	5	5
<i>Hague, Kevin</i>	List		Very clever man ahead of his time. Brilliant speaker - knows health sector politics backwards.	5	6
<i>Hughes, Gareth</i>	List		Fails to see there are other perspectives or ever contemplates the thought he may be wrong. The jury is out on whether he has substance.	4	5
<i>Logie, Jan</i>	List		Makes some good points on justice issues but she's a shrinking violet.	3	3
<i>Mathers, Mojo</i>	List		Clever and sharp, but not much else to offer.	3	4
<i>Norman, Russel</i>	List	Co-Leader	Still one of the best performers in Parliament. Must ensure those who say they vote Green actually vote, and reassure business about a Green influenced Govt. Assertive, but relentlessly negative and will be tough in a coalition.	8	7
<i>Roche, Denise</i>	List		Competent and has been working hard on her ability to sneer in Parliament.	4	4
<i>Sage, Eugene</i>	List		Can twist statistics and reality to fit the message. Devout greenie with conservation credentials.	5	5
<i>Turei, Metiria</i>	List	Co-Leader	Deeply distrusted by National and worries Labour too. Often shoots from the lip. A liability in Govt?	6	6
<i>Walker, Holly</i>	List		Clever, quick and caring, took time out from Parliament to have a baby.	4	4
NZ First					
<i>Martin, Tracey</i>	List	Deputy leader	A sharp contributor in Parliament with a barbed tongue and a good sneer. Good choice for deputy.	4	5
<i>O'Rourke, Denis</i>	List		Looks out of depth and out of touch at times. But works hard. Puts in the hours in the House.	3.5	4
<i>Peters, Winston</i>	List	Leader	Still the best attack MP in Parliament but he's starting to suffer from grumpy old man syndrome. Still gets massive media coverage, and knows he can be a key player post-election if he gets NZ First back - he'll die trying.	7	7
<i>Prosser, Richard</i>	List		His "Wogistan" rant managed to get him international headlines. His head is full of conspiracy theories.	3	1.5
<i>Stewart, Barbara</i>	List		Means well, does no harm and is worried about young people getting tattoos from bad people.	3	3
<i>Lole-Taylor, Asenati</i>	List		First MP to talk about the price of blow jobs in the House. Lively debater with some wonky views.	3	2
<i>Williams, Andrew</i>	List		Miffed at not becoming deputy. Still a ticking time bomb. Best opposition MP on local Govt.	2	3
Independent					
<i>Horan, Brendon</i>	List		His political career is just ticking off the days to the election. Makes a token effort.	2	1

2013 Politician Of The Year - Bill English

For the title of Politician of the Year, we had some of the stiffest competition since Trans-Tasman began its Roll Call. John Key's phenomenal popularity has hardly been dented by incidents like the GCSB and Kim Dotcom sagas. His opponents seriously underestimated his capacity to roll with the punches. More significantly, his Cabinet and caucus remain solidly united under his leadership. Should he win a third term, there won't be any quibbles he deserves the title.

David Cunliffe put himself in contention by winning over Labour's footsoldiers (if not all within his caucus) and taking the fight to the enemy. He promises a shift back to the radical roots of Labour but there is a concern he speaks out of each side of the mouth. We'll be happier when he convinces the public he's a straight shooter.

Russel Norman succeeded brilliantly in maintaining a high profile, outshining Labour's then leader for most of the year, but there's been no political pay-off for the Greens in their poll ratings.

In Cabinet Social Development Minister Paula Bennett put herself in contention, pushing through reforms to the welfare system the public has accepted as essential to make it less of a lifestyle for the undeserving and more as a safety net for the unfortunate.

Justice Minister Judith Collins is showing real steel of the kind which reminds some of the Iron Lady. She knows how to wipe the smile off each of those Labour throws up against her.

But one Ministerial performance stood out above others: that of Finance Minister Bill English, who's not only restoring the Crown accounts to surplus but got the economy, as Westpac economists put it, "set to fly." He does more than his share of the heavy lifting on policy. He's driven reform in the state sector, to use resources more effectively and deliver higher quality services. In the House he's become a commanding performer, blunting Opposition attacks.

He and John Key make a formidable team, with English's intellectual grunt complementing Key's instinctive political "feel." He's the ideal deputy, harbouring no ambition for the top job, but standing his ground when he believes he is right, as he did when the PM wanted to over-ride the independence of the Reserve Bank applying its LVR rules to first-home buyers. Trans-Tasman rates him Politician of the Year.



**Bill English - Trans Tasman
2013 Politician Of The Year**

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