



Baroness Scotland was the first woman to become attorney general when she was appointed by Gordon Brown in 2007.

The tenth of 12 children, she was born Patricia Scotland on the Caribbean island of Dominica in 1955. Her family moved to Walthamstow, east London, when she was three years old.

Baroness Scotland went to school in London and Essex and went on to study law at the University of London.

She became the first black woman to be a QC in 1991 before becoming the first black female government minister.

As a lawyer she specialised in family and public law – in particular cases involving child abuse, mental health and housing.