

Advertisement

-
- [Top stories](#)
- [Your area](#)
 - [National](#)
 - [Border](#)
 - [Tyne Tees](#)
 - [Calendar](#)
 - [Granada](#)
 - [Central](#)
 - [Anglia](#)
 - [London](#)
 - [Meridian](#)
 - [Wales](#)
 - [West Country](#)
 - [Channel](#)
 - [UTV](#)
- [Topics](#)
 - [World](#)
 - [Politics](#)
 - [Brexit](#)
 - [Business](#)
 - [Money](#)
 - [Health](#)
 - [Education](#)
 - [Entertainment](#)
 - [Royal](#)
 - [Technology](#)
 - [Sport](#)
 - [And Finally](#)
 - [Environment](#)
 - [Science](#)
 - [Travel](#)
 - [Religion](#)
 - [Economy](#)
 - [Weather](#)
 - [Countryside](#)
 - [Employment](#)
 - [Animals](#)
 - [Consumer](#)
- [Sport](#)
- [Weather](#)

[Main page content](#)

Advertisement

1. ITV Report
2. 10 March 2014 at 6:17pm

MP Nigel Evans accused of groping in parliament bar and rape of sleeping student



Nigel Evans arriving at Preston Crown Court today *Photo: Peter Byrne/PA*

MP Nigel Evans exploited his powerful influence to sexually assault seven men, a court has been told today.

The former deputy speaker of the House of Commons is charged with two counts of indecent assault, six of sexual assault and one of rape, but denies all the charges against him.

Today prosecutors said Mr Evans had exerted his power to press his sexual attentions on young victims, believing "that his position made it less than likely that someone would complain".

There are nine charges overall from seven alleged victims, dating from 2002 to 1 April 2013. They were heard in court today:

- **Count 1:** indecent assault of a male between January 1, 2002 and January 1, 2004.
- **Count 2:** indecent assault of a male between January 1, 2003 and January 1, 2004.
- **Count 3:** sexual assault (intentional touching) between January 1, 2009 and January 1, 2010.
- **Count 4:** sexual assault (intentional touching) between June 30, 2009 and August 1, 2009.
- **Count 5:** sexual assault (intentional touching) between January 1, 2010 and January 1, 2011.
- **Count 6:** sexual assault (intentional touching) between January 1, 2011 and January 1, 2012.
- **Counts 7, 8 and 9** all involve the same complainant.
- **Count 7:** sexual assault (intentional touching) between March 29, 2013 and April 1, 2013.
- **Count 8:** rape between March 29, 2013 and April 1, 2013.
- **Count 9:** sexual assault (intentional touching) between March 29, 2013 and April 1, 2013.



Mr Evans denies the nine sexual offence charges against him and says he will "robustly defend his innocence" *Credit: Peter Byrne/PA*

The most serious of the allegations against the 56-year-old MP is a claim that he raped a sleeping student in his home in Pendleton, Lancashire. Mr Evans argues events were entirely consensual.

He is also alleged to have committed separate sexual assaults at a parliamentary bar and at the Conservative Party conference.

Within the Palace of Westminster, in his constituency and in his own political party, Mr Evans was, during the decade with which you are concerned, a very well-known and powerful individual.

"Part of his influence included the ability to make, or to break, the careers of those young people who themselves would be politicians or work for those who govern.

"The prosecution case against Mr Evans is that he, often when in drink, pressed his sexual attentions on those younger men, using or trading on his position of influence.

– *Mark Heywood QC, prosecutor*

Mr Evans has said he will "robustly defend his innocence" after [resigning his role as deputy speaker](#) in September to fight the allegations against him.

The speaker of the House of Commons, John Bercow, is expected to be a witness at the trial, while jurors were also told they could hear testimony from Michael Fabricant MP, Conor Burns MP and former MP Lembit Opik.

[Read: Evans 'attempted assault at party conference'](#)

Last updated Mon 7 Apr 2014



1. [Read more](#)
2. [29 updates](#)

[Nigel Evans: Assault claims are a conspiracy](#)

- [UK](#)
- [Share](#)
- [Tweet](#)
- [Plus](#)
- [Reddit](#)

Advertisement

Top stories



[Labour tipped to backtrack in anti-Semitism definition row](#)



[Radio 5 Live host reveals she has just days to live](#)

-



[Child refugee who slept rough in London in disbelief at NFL deal](#)



[Play video](#)

[Mum-on-the-run risks baby's life in astonishing police chase](#)



[The best images from the UK's \(joint\) hottest summer](#)



[Poles remember 'betrayal' as new film honours RAF heroes](#)



[England legend Gooch on retiring 'hero' Cook's true legacy](#)



[Star from British film classic now part of UK's oldest newlyweds](#)



[The powerful message of the young man waiting for a heart](#)



[Will September's promising weather continue?](#)

ITV Presents

Be on TV
Mobile
Jackpot
Signed Stories

Corporate

ITV Plc
Jobs
Press Centre
ITV Media
Commissioning

Information

Help
Contact Us
Terms & Conditions
Privacy Notice

By using this site, you agree we can set and use cookies. For more details of these cookies and how to disable them, see our [cookie policy](#).

© Copyright ITV plc 2018