

David Richards  
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Politics  
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## Employment

### Professor of Public Policy

Academic (Teaching & Research) Professor  
Politics  
The University of Manchester  
1 Sep 2012 → present

## Research output

### Breaking from the Iron Cage of 'prison works

Richards, D. & Warner, S., 18 May 2023, Bennett Institute for Public Policy.

### Local democracy is essential for effective decentralisation in England

Newman, J., Richards, D., Westwood, A. & Diamond, P., 10 May 2023, British Politics and Policy at LSE.

### What Does Dominic Raab's Resignation tell us about the Current State of Minister-Civil Servant Relations?

Richards, D. & Diamond, P., 22 Apr 2023, Mile End Institute Blog.

### Performance Frameworks, Policy Outcomes and the Politics of Short-Termism: Lesson Learning from UK Prisons Policy

Richards, D., Warner, S., Smith, M. & Coyle, D., 3 Apr 2023.

### Jeremy Hunt's Budget is more about Short-Term Politics than the Economy

Richards, D., Warner, S. & Smith, M., 16 Mar 2023, The Conversation.

### How the Politicisation of Levelling Up is Undermining Regional Policy

Richards, D., Westwood, A., Newman, J. & Diamond, P., 6 Mar 2023, LSE Politics and Policy Blog.

### Levelling Up the UK: If not the Conservatives, will Labour Learn the Lessons from Past Policy Failings?

Richards, D., Westwood, A., Sanders, A. & Diamond, P., 15 Feb 2023, In: The Political Quarterly.

### Can Labour's Plans for Constitutional Reform Deliver a "New Politics"?

Richards, D. & Diamond, P., 11 Jan 2023, LSE Politics and Policy Blog.

### Will the Autumn Statement's short-term Focus Sideline longer-term Outcomes for Public Services? Public services may well have passed their tipping point, and short-term firefighting is clearly not the way back

Richards, D., Warner, S. & Smith, M., 1 Dec 2022, Civil Service World.

### Autumn Statement 2022: What Sunak's First Big Announcement Tells Us about How he will Lead the Country

Richards, D., Warner, S. & Smith, M., 18 Nov 2022, The Conversation.

### Will Bolshevik-style Conservative statecraft herald a strange death for Tory England?

Richards, D. & Smith, M., 10 Nov 2022, British Politics and Policy at LSE.

**The UK's incoherent state, levelling-up and the problems of English governance**

Richards, D., Warner, S., Smith, M. & Coyle, D., 7 Nov 2022, Bennett Institute for Public Policy.

**Treasury Orthodoxy and the Short Life and Death of the Truss Government**

Richards, D., Warner, S. & Smith, M., 25 Oct 2022, 2 p. Colourfield Publishing : Public Sector Focus.

**Life after 'Trussonomics': Treasury Orthodoxy's Revival and the Future of the Levelling-up Agenda**

Richards, D., Sanders, A., Westwood, A. & Diamond, P., 19 Oct 2022, UK in a Changing Europe.

**Core Executive Control And The UK's Changing Policy Arena: A Critical Analysis Of Policy Co-Ordination From The Thatcher To The Johnson Government**

Richards, D., Warner, S. & Smith, M., 30 Sep 2022.

**Crisis and state transformation: Covid-19, levelling up and the UK's incoherent state**

Richards, D., Warner, S., Coyle, D. & Smith, M., 21 Sep 2022, In: Cambridge Journal of Regions, Economy and Society. p. 1 18 p.

**A 'Dishonourable' Honours List by Boris Johnson would further Expose the Fallacy of the UK's System of 'Club Government'**

Richards, D., 14 Jul 2022, British Politics and Policy at LSE.

**The Gendered Dynamics of 'Partygate': Leadership and Hypermasculinity at the Centre of Johnson's Administration**

Richards, D. & Sanders, A., 30 May 2022, British Politics and Policy at LSE.

**Civil Service Reform**

Richards, D., Warner, S. & Smith, M., 31 Mar 2022, 3 p. UK in a Changing Europe.

**The UK Productivity-Governance Puzzle**

Richards, D., Sanders, A. & Diamond, P., 31 Mar 2022, 4 p. policy@manchester.

**Whitehall's centralised system can't deliver Boris Johnson's promises to 'level up'**

Richards, D., Warner, S., Coyle, D. & Smith, M., 4 Feb 2022, The Conversation.

**Post-pandemic planning: can the Treasury and Whitehall adapt? Perspectives on UK economic policy institutions**

Richards, D., Warner, S., Cambridge, U. & York, U., 25 Nov 2021, 6 p. Manchester Metropolitan University.

**Levelling up will not Work without the Development of Localism**

Richards, D., Warner, S. & Smith, M., 3 Nov 2021, UK in a Changing Europe.

**ENGLISH DEVOLUTION AND COVID**

Richards, D., Warner, S., Coyle, D. & Smith, M., 10 Aug 2021, John Wiley & Sons Ltd.

**English Devolution and the COVID-19 Pandemic: Governing Dilemmas in the Shadow of the Treasury**

Warner, S., Richards, D., Coyle, D. & Smith, M., 8 Apr 2021, In: The Political Quarterly.

**English Devolution and the Covid-19 Pandemic: Governing Dilemmas in the Shadow of the Treasury**

Richards, D., Warner, S., Coyle, D. & York, U., 2 Apr 2021, In: Political Quarterly. p. 1 10 p.

**Budget Ditches Industrial Strategy for Centralised Levelling Up**

Richards, D., Warner, S., Smith, M. & Coyle, D., 10 Mar 2021, University of Cambridge.

**Why Local Governments will Feel Aggrieved by this Spending Review**

Richards, D., Warner, S., Coyle, D. & Smith, M. J., 25 Nov 2020, *The Conversation*.

**Cummings and Gove cannot reform Whitehall without reforming the Treasury**

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**The Civil Service**

Richards, D. & Smith, M., 29 May 2020, *The Routledge Handbook of British Politics and Society*. Garnett, M. (ed.). 1st ed. Routledge

**More austerity? The Treasury must act against the grain of its own history in responding to the COVID-19 crisis**

Richards, D., Warner, S., Coyle, D. & Smith, M., 11 May 2020, *LSE Politics and Policy Blog*.

**The Prime Minister vs the Chancellor: institutionalised conflict in economic policy-making**

Richards, D., Coyle, D., Smith, M. & Warner, S., 17 Mar 2020

**Another Wave of Anti-Politics is Looming – Can the Centre Hold?**

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**The civil service's gender diversity agenda under the coalition: where have the critical feminist actors gone?**

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**The Civil Service's gender diversity agenda under the coalition**

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**Westminster's Brexit Paradox: The contingency of the 'old' versus 'new' politics**

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**'Things were better in the past': Brexit and the Westminster fallacy of democratic nostalgia**

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Richards, D. & Diamond, P., May 2017

**Brexit and the Westminster Fallacy of 'Democratic Nostalgia'**

Richards, D. & Smith, M. J., May 2017, [policy@manchester](mailto:policy@manchester).

**Brexit and the Meaning of 'Taking Back Control': Great State Expectations?**

Richards, D., Purdam, K., Richardson, E. & James, O., 27 Mar 2017, [policy@manchester](mailto:policy@manchester).

**The Treasury in the 21st century: still one of the great offices of state or a hollowed-out, echo chamber?**

Richards, D., 7 Mar 2017, [policy@manchester](mailto:policy@manchester).

**Avoiding 'Brexit Turf Wars': Whitehall's Need for a Grand Strategy**

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**Are political statecraft and populism compatible? Lessons from Corbyn and Trump**

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**Grand Brexit Strategies – can Whitehall cope?**

Richards, D. & Smith, M. J., 8 Dec 2016, British Politics and Policy at LSE.

**British politics in the Age of Uncertainty: the link between old, new, and anti-politics**

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**The Westminster Model and the “Indivisibility of the Political and Administrative Elite”: A Convenient Myth Whose Time Is Up? Authors**

Richards, D. & Smith, M. J., 8 Sep 2016, In: *Governance*. 29, 4, p. 499-516 18 p.

**Brexit, Whitehall, and the demise of Haldane: the need for a new minister-civil servant relationship**

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**Back to the Future? Brexit, elitism, and the British Political Tradition**

Richards, D. & Fitzpatrick, D., 20 Jul 2016

**On the politics of lying: does the Hillsborough cover-up reveal a wider institutional malaise in the UK?**

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**Re-centring the British Political Tradition: Explaining Contingency in New Labour and the Coalition’s Governance Statecraft**

Diamond, P., Richards, D. & Smith, M. J., 17 May 2016, *Interpreting Governance, High Politics, and Public Policy: Essays commemorating Interpreting British Governance*. Turnbull, N. (ed.). London: Routledge, p. 19-38 20 p. Chapter 1. (Routledge Studies in Governance and Public Policy; no. 22).

**•When should Cameron resign? Lessons from Wilson, Thatcher and Blair**

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**DEVOLUTION IN ENGLAND, THE BRITISH POLITICAL TRADITION AND THE ABSENCE OF CONSULTATION, CONSENSUS AND CONSIDERATION**

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**Targets? More targets! Even less change and more continuity in the performance regime in Whitehall**

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**Against Ad Hocery: UK Devolution and the Need for Consultation, Consensus and Consideration**

Richards, D. & Smith, M. J., Jun 2015

**The Strange Resurrection of the British Political Tradition**

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**The demise of the Parliament’s Political and Constitutional Reform Committee: executive power is again predominant**

Richards, D., Smith, M. J. & Allan M.P., G., 25 May 2015

**Whatever happened to the strange death of Tory England?**

Richards, D. & Smith, M. J., 18 May 2015

**Against ad hocery: we need a more democratic approach to UK devolution**

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**Labouring in the Shadow of the British Political Tradition: The Dilemma of ‘One Nation’ Politics in an Age of Disunification**

Diamond, P., Liddle, R. & Richards, D., 13 Apr 2015, In: *The Political Quarterly*. 86, 1, p. 52-61 9 p.

**In Defence of British Politics Against the British Political Tradition**

Richards, D. & Smith, M., 9 Feb 2015, In: *The Political Quarterly*. 86, 1, p. 41-51 10 p.

**Neither Unified, Nor Uniform – So What Civil Service for the Twenty-First Century?**

Gains, F. & Richards, D., 26 Jan 2015, policy@manchester.

**How to address the pathologies of the British political tradition in an age of disengagement and distrust**

Richards, D., Diamond, P. & Smith, M. J., 4 Dec 2014

**The programme of post-referendum constitutional reform must not be by the elites for the elites**

Richards, D., Leone, S. & Smith, M. J., 25 Sep 2014

**Institutions and the banality of evil: Learning from Rotherham and Savile**

Richards, D. & Smith, M. J., 9 Sep 2014

**Too much democracy? Time for 21st Century Democracy**

Richards, D. & Smith, M. J., 10 Jul 2014

**Only greater openness and transparency can defeat the UK's institutional malaise**

Richards, D. & Smith, M. J., 5 Jun 2014

**Sorry Seems to be the Hardest Word: The Politics of the Apology**

Richards, D. & Smith, M. J., 14 Apr 2014

**Conclusion: Après le Deluge – Crisis, Continuity and Change in UK Institutions**

Richards, D., Smith, M. J. & Hay, C., 1 Apr 2014, *'Institutional Crisis in Twenty-First Century Britain'*. Richards, D., Smith, M. & Hay, C. (eds.). Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan Ltd, p. 256-272 16 p. (Understanding Governance).

**Crisis Redux: The Miscasting of a Crisis of Expectation?**

Richards, D., 1 Apr 2014, *'Institutional Crisis in Twenty-First Century Britain'*. Richards, D., Smith, M. & Hay, C. (eds.). Palgrave Macmillan Ltd, p. 15-38 23 p. (Understanding Governance).

**Introduction: A Crisis of UK Institutions?**

Richards, D. & Smith, M., 1 Apr 2014, *'Institutional Crisis in Twenty-First Century Britain'*. Richards, D., Smith, M. & Hay, C. (eds.). Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan Ltd, p. 1-14 14 p. (Understanding Governance).

**Breaking the Rules and Paying the Price: the lessons of Tony Benn, Cabinet Minister**

Richards, D. & Smith, M. J., 27 Mar 2014

**Institutional Crisis in 21st Century Britain**

Richards, D., Richards, D., Smith, M. J. & Hay, C., Mar 2014, 1 ed. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan Ltd. 296 p. (Understanding Governance)

**The re-glazed glass ceiling: After a decade of concerted progress the lack of diversity in Whitehall is again in the headlines**

Richards, D., Fitzpatrick, D., Gains, F. & Annesley, C., 20 Feb 2014

**The Universal Credit fiasco shows that we need a new model of Ministerial accountability**

Richards, D. & Smith, M. J., 30 Nov 2013

**Ministers and Mandarins : The IPPR's 2013 Review of the Senior Civil Service: A Commentary**

Richards, D. & Smith, M. J., 27 Jun 2013

**Politicians often claim commitment to decentralising the state, but once in government they are unwilling to relinquish their own power**

Richards, D., Diamond, P. & Smith, M. J., 28 May 2013

**Visions of Subsidiarity and the Curse of the British Political Tradition**

Richards, D., Diamond, P. & Smith, M. J., 20 May 2013

**The Case for Theoretical and Methodological Pluralism in British Political Studies: New Labour's Political Memoirs and the British Political Tradition**

Diamond, P. & Richards, D., May 2012, In: *Political Studies Review*. 10, 2, p. 177-194 17 p.

**Analysing policy delivery in the United Kingdom: The case of street crime and anti-social behaviour**

Smith, M. J., Richards, D., Geddes, A. & Mathers, H., Sep 2011, In: *Public Administration*. 89, 3, p. 975-1000 25 p.

**Changing Patterns of Executive Governance**

Richards, D., 14 Jul 2011, *Developments in British Politics 9*. Heffernan, R., Cowley, P. & Hay, C. (eds.). 9 ed. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan Ltd, Vol. 9. p. 29-50 21 p. (Developments in British Politics).

**Labour in and out of government: Political ideas, political practice and the british political tradition**

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**Symposium on british politics in an Era of Coalition government: Understanding continuity and change. Preface**

Richards, D., 8 Apr 2011, In: *Political Studies Review*. 9, 2, p. 143-144 2 p.

**Book Reviewing in the Social Sciences: Exploring the Myth of the Asymmetric Review**

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**Political Memoirs and New Labour: Interpretations of Power and the 'Club Rules'**

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**Back to the future: New Labour, sovereignty and the plurality of the party's ideological tradition**

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**Symposium on the 2008 financial crisis and its repercussions: Preface**

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**HOUSE OF LORDS Select Committee on the Constitution 4th Report of Session 2009–10 - The Cabinet Office and the Centre of Government**

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**New Labour and Special Advisers: Examining a Model of Resource Dependency**

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**New Labour and the Civil Service: Analysing the Issue of Politicisation**

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**Sustaining the westminster model: A case study of the transition in power between political parties in British government**

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**Decentring policy networks: A theoretical agenda**

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**Decentring policy networks: Lessons and prospects**

Bevir, M. & Richards, D., 2009, In: *Public Administration*. 87, 1, p. 132-141 9 p.

**Old and new labour narratives of whitehall: Radicals, reactionaries and defenders of the westminster model**

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**British Politics And The Challenges To The Westminster Model**

Blunkett, D. & Richards, D., Feb 2008, In: *Politics Review*. 17, 3

**New Labour and the Civil Service: Reconstituting The Westminster Model**

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**The Tensions of Political Control and Administrative Autonomy: from NPM to a Reconstituted Westminster Model**

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**Delivery of Public Services**

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**Central control and policy implementation in the UK: A case study of the Prime Minister's Delivery Unit**

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**Interpreting the World of Political Elites**

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**Understanding and explaining civil service reform: a reply to Dowding and James**

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**Unequal Plurality: Towards an Asymmetric Power Model of British Politics**

Marsh, D., Richards, D. & Smith, M. J., Jul 2003, In: *Government and Opposition*. 38, 3, p. 306-332

**Continuities in Political Elites: Prime Ministers, Ministers and Civil Servants in Britain**

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**Prime Ministers, Ministers and Civil Servants in Britain**

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**CHANGING PATTERNS OF GOVERNANCE IN THE UNITED KINGDOM: Reinventing Whitehall**

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**Governance and Public Policy in the United Kingdom**

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**Breaking the Policy Bias: Windows of Opportunity and the Realignment of Structural Constraints in Three Governments Departments**

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**Departmentalism and joined-up government**

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**The public service ethos and the role of the British civil service**

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**Re-assessing the Role of Departmental Cabinet Ministers**

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**Bureaucrats, Politicians and Reform in Whitehall: Analysing the Bureau-Shaping Model**

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**The Tangled Webs of Westminster and Whitehall: The Discourse, Strategy and Practice of Networking Within the British Core Executive**

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**New Labour, the Constitution and Reforming the State**

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**The Changing Role of Central Government Departments**

Richards, D., Smith, M. J. & Marsh, D., 2000, *Transforming British Government Volume Two: Changing Roles and Relationships*. Rhodes, R. (ed.). Palgrave Macmillan Ltd, p. 146-164 18 p.

**The Conservatives, New Labour and Whitehall: A Biographical Examination of the Political Flexibility of the Mandarin Cadre**

Richards, D., 1999, *Bureaucrats and Leadership*. Theakston, K. (ed.). Palgrave Macmillan Ltd, p. 91-117 26 p. (Transforming Government).

**The Gatekeepers of the Common Good - Power and the Public Service Ethos**

Richards, D. & Smith, M. J., 1998, *Ethics and Accountability in a Context of Governance and New Public Management*. Hondeghem, A. (ed.). Amsterdam: IOS Press, p. 151-166 14 p.

**How Departments Change: Windows of Opportunity and Critical Junctures in Three Departments**

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**The Civil Service Under the Conservatives, 1979-97: Whitehall's Political Poodles**

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**Appointments to the highest grades in the civil service: Drawing the curtain open**

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**Elite Interviewing: Approaches and Pitfalls**

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**THATCHERISM AND 3'Rs': RADICALISM, REALISM AND RHETORIC IN THE THIRD TERM OF THE THATCHER GOVERNMENT**

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**Thatcherism and the 3 'Rs': Radicalism, realism and rhetoric in the third term of the thatcher government**

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**Central Government Departments and the Policy Process**

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**Why Did They Do It? Voting On Homosexuality And Capital Punishment In The House Of Commons**

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**CENTRAL GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND THE POLICY PROCESS**

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**Activities**

**Westminster Systems Training Programme for Sabah State MPs, Malaysia**

David Richards (Academic founder)

30 May 2023 → 1 Jun 2023

**Evidence to the Levelling Up, Housing and Communities Committee's Inquiry 'Funding for Levelling-Up'**

David Richards (Other), Samuel Warner (Other), Diane Coyle (Other) & Martin Smith (Other)

7 Mar 2023

**Evidence to the Levelling Up, Housing and Communities Committee's Inquiry 'Funding for Levelling-Up'**

David Richards (Other), Jack Newman (Other), Anna Sanders (Other), Patrick Diamond (Other) & Andrew Westwood (Other)

21 Feb 2023

**How can the Government Ensure it gets Value for Money from Public Spending?**

David Richards (Speaker), Christopher Hood (Speaker), Sharon White (Speaker), Niamh Hardiman (Speaker) & Gemma Tatlow (Speaker)

14 Nov 2022

**Evidence to the Devolution All-Party Parliamentary Group [APPG] into the Government's Levelling Up White Paper**

David Richards (Other), Anna Sanders (Other), Andrew Westwood (Other) & Patrick Diamond (Other)

25 Oct 2022

**Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Committee**

David Richards (Participant), Samuel Warner (Participant), Diane Coyle (Participant) & Martin Smith (Participant)

Jan 2021

**Evidence to the House of Lords Select Committee on Citizenship and Civic Engagement Inquiry**

David Richards (Academic founder), Martin J. Smith (Academic founder) & Patrick Diamond (Academic founder)

20 Oct 2017

**Ethnographies of Legislatures Research Workshop, University of Edinburgh**

David Richards (Chair)

12 Oct 2017 → 13 Oct 2017

**Cardiff University**

David Richards (Secondee)

2017 → 2021

**Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Committee**

David Richards (Participant)

1 Jun 2016

**Political and Constitutional Reform Committee**

David Richards (Participant)

1 Mar 2015

**Political and Constitutional Reform Committee**

David Richards (Participant)

1 Jan 2015

**Australian Research Council (External organisation)**

David Richards (Academic expert member)

2015 → ...

**Political and Constitutional Reform Committee**

David Richards (Participant)

1 Oct 2014

**Political and Constitutional Reform Committee**

David Richards (Participant)

1 Jul 2014

**Public Administration Select Committee**

David Richards (Participant)

1 Nov 2012

**Public Administration Select Committee**

David Richards (Participant)

1 Apr 2012

**University College - Cork**

David Richards (Secondee)

2012 → 2016

**Public Administration Select Committee**

David Richards (Participant)

1 Dec 2011

**Public Administration Select Committee**

David Richards (Participant)

1 Sep 2011

**Political and Constitutional Reform Committee**

David Richards (Participant)

1 Mar 2011

**University of Aberdeen**

David Richards (Seconded)

2011 → 2015

**Written Evidence to the Public Accounts Committee on Sustaining Local Economic Growth Inquiry**

David Richards (Other), Samuel Warner (Other) & Martin Smith (Other)

31 Mar 2002

**Evidence to the Public Accounts Committee, House of Commons on Sustaining Local Economic Growth Inquiry**

David Richards (Other), Samuel Warner (Other) & Martin Smith (Other)

28 Feb 2001