

## POPULUS PARLIAMENT PANEL - DECEMBER 2011

Populus interviewed 115 MPs online or by self-complete postal questionnaire between 10th November & 5th December 2011.

Data were weighted by political party to be representative of the UK Parliament. Populus is a member of the British Polling Council and abides by its rules. For more information, see [www.populus.co.uk](http://www.populus.co.uk).

### Respondent profile - unweighted

Political party	Total	115	100%
	Conservative	47	41%
	Labour	53	46%
	Liberal Democrat	9	8%
	Other	6	5%
Gender	Male	87	76%
	Female	28	24%
Age	18-44	37	32%
	45-54	35	30%
	55+	43	37%
Country	England	91	79%
	Scotland	11	10%
	Wales	9	8%
	Northern Ireland	4	3%
Region	Midlands	22	19%
	South East	13	11%
	South West	13	11%
	Greater London	11	10%
	North West	12	10%
	North East	10	9%
	Yorkshire and the Humber	10	9%
	Scotland	11	10%
	Wales	9	8%
	Northern Ireland	4	3%

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**Respondent profile - unweighted**

First year elected	Before 1992	12	10%
	1992 - 1996	9	8%
	1997 - 2000	18	16%
	2001 - 2004	12	10%
	2005 - 2009	19	17%
	2010 or later	45	39%
Constituency majority	0.1% - 9.9%	34	30%
	10% - 19.9%	39	34%
	20%+	42	37%

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**Respondent profile - weighted**

Political party	Total	115	100%
	Conservative	54	47%
	Labour	46	40%
	Liberal Democrat	10	9%
	Other	5	4%
Gender	Male	89	77%
	Female	26	23%
Age	18-44	39	34%
	45-54	34	29%
	55+	42	37%
Country	England	94	82%
	Scotland	9	8%
	Wales	8	7%
	Northern Ireland	3	3%
Region	Midlands	24	21%
	South East	15	13%
	South West	15	13%
	Greater London	11	9%
	North West	11	10%
	North East	9	8%
	Yorkshire and the Humber	9	8%
	Scotland	9	8%
	Wales	8	7%
	Northern Ireland	3	3%

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**Respondent profile - weighted**

First year elected	Before 1992	12	10%
	1992 - 1996	9	7%
	1997 - 2000	18	15%
	2001 - 2004	12	10%
	2005 - 2009	19	16%
	2010 or later	46	40%
Constituency majority	0.1% - 9.9%	34	29%
	10% - 19.9%	39	34%
	20%+	42	37%

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Thinking about public affairs and lobbying, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

		Political party					Gender		Age		
		Total	Conservative	Labour	Liberal Democrat	Other	Male	Female	18-44	45-54	55+
The democratic process will be helped by a statutory Register of those engaged in public affairs	Strongly agree	31 27%	8 15%	15 35%	7 67%	1 17%	27 31%	4 14%	7 18%	11 31%	13 33%
	Slightly agree	40 35%	17 32%	20 44%	2 22%	1 17%	27 31%	13 49%	16 41%	11 34%	13 31%
	Neither agree nor disagree	28 24%	16 30%	8 17%	1 11%	2 50%	18 20%	10 37%	10 26%	9 25%	9 21%
	Slightly disagree	8 7%	6 11%	2 4%	0 0%	1 17%	8 9%	0 0%	3 9%	2 6%	3 7%
	Strongly disagree	7 6%	7 13%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	7 8%	0 0%	2 6%	1 3%	3 8%
Your personal experience of public affairs would suggest that further regulation of the industry is necessary	Strongly agree	19 17%	5 9%	11 25%	3 33%	0 0%	17 19%	3 10%	5 12%	6 17%	9 21%
	Slightly agree	29 25%	10 19%	15 34%	3 33%	0 0%	22 25%	7 28%	9 23%	13 40%	7 16%
	Neither agree nor disagree	34 30%	14 26%	14 30%	2 22%	4 83%	23 25%	11 44%	16 40%	5 16%	13 31%
	Slightly disagree	26 22%	19 34%	5 11%	1 11%	1 17%	22 25%	4 14%	9 23%	7 20%	10 23%
	Strongly disagree	7 6%	7 13%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	6 7%	1 4%	1 3%	2 7%	3 8%
Public affairs professionals are a hindrance to the work of Members of Parliament	Strongly agree	7 6%	3 6%	3 8%	0 0%	0 0%	6 7%	1 3%	2 6%	2 6%	3 6%
	Slightly agree	7	3	3	0	0	5	2	3	2	2

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Thinking about public affairs and lobbying, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

		Country				Region				
		England	Scotland	Wales	Northern Ireland	Midlands	South East	South West	Greater London	North West
The democratic process will be helped by a statutory Register of those engaged in public affairs	Strongly agree	21 22%	3 40%	7 86%	0 0%	3 14%	2 15%	2 15%	7 63%	2 18%
	Slightly agree	37 39%	3 40%	0 0%	0 0%	7 29%	8 54%	6 39%	3 26%	3 30%
	Neither agree nor disagree	23 25%	1 10%	1 14%	2 75%	8 32%	5 31%	3 22%	1 11%	4 32%
	Slightly disagree	7 7%	1 10%	0 0%	1 25%	3 15%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	1 10%
	Strongly disagree	7 7%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	2 10%	0 0%	3 24%	0 0%	1 10%
Your personal experience of public affairs would suggest that further regulation of the industry is necessary	Strongly agree	15 16%	3 27%	2 21%	0 0%	5 22%	1 8%	1 8%	4 34%	2 15%
	Slightly agree	22 23%	3 37%	4 45%	0 0%	3 12%	2 15%	7 47%	2 16%	2 18%
	Neither agree nor disagree	29 31%	1 9%	1 10%	3 100%	8 32%	7 46%	1 8%	3 29%	3 30%
	Slightly disagree	21 22%	3 27%	2 24%	0 0%	8 34%	5 31%	2 14%	0 0%	3 27%
	Strongly disagree	7 7%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	3 24%	2 21%	1 10%
Public affairs professionals are a hindrance to the work of Members of Parliament	Strongly agree	6 6%	0 0%	1 10%	0 0%	2 9%	0 0%	0 0%	1 8%	3 28%
	Slightly agree	6	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	1

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Thinking about public affairs and lobbying, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

		Region				
		North East	Yorkshire and the Humber	Scotland	Wales	Northern Ireland
The democratic process will be helped by a statutory Register of those engaged in public affairs	Strongly agree	3 31%	1 9%	3 40%	7 86%	0 0%
	Slightly agree	5 50%	5 56%	3 40%	0 0%	0 0%
	Neither agree nor disagree	1 9%	2 22%	1 10%	1 14%	2 75%
	Slightly disagree	1 9%	1 13%	1 10%	0 0%	1 25%
	Strongly disagree	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%
Your personal experience of public affairs would suggest that further regulation of the industry is necessary	Strongly agree	2 22%	0 0%	3 27%	2 21%	0 0%
	Slightly agree	4 40%	3 28%	3 37%	4 45%	0 0%
	Neither agree nor disagree	3 38%	3 37%	1 9%	1 10%	3 100%
	Slightly disagree	0 0%	3 35%	3 27%	2 24%	0 0%
	Strongly disagree	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%
Public affairs professionals are a hindrance to the work of Members of Parliament	Strongly agree	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	1 10%	0 0%
	Slightly agree	2	0	0	1	0

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Thinking about public affairs and lobbying, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

		First year elected					
		Before 1992	1992 - 1996	1997 - 2000	2001 - 2004	2005 - 2009	2010 or later
The democratic process will be helped by a statutory Register of those engaged in public affairs	Strongly agree	4 33%	3 30%	3 18%	6 49%	5 29%	11 23%
	Slightly agree	4 39%	2 23%	7 37%	1 7%	7 37%	20 42%
	Neither agree nor disagree	2 18%	1 10%	4 21%	5 44%	3 17%	13 27%
	Slightly disagree	0 0%	2 23%	1 5%	0 0%	3 17%	2 5%
	Strongly disagree	1 10%	1 13%	3 20%	0 0%	0 0%	1 2%
Your personal experience of public affairs would suggest that further regulation of the industry is necessary	Strongly agree	3 28%	1 10%	1 5%	4 32%	6 31%	5 10%
	Slightly agree	2 16%	2 23%	8 43%	1 7%	4 20%	13 28%
	Neither agree nor disagree	3 26%	2 20%	3 16%	2 14%	5 24%	20 43%
	Slightly disagree	2 19%	4 47%	3 16%	4 37%	3 19%	9 19%
	Strongly disagree	1 10%	0 0%	3 20%	1 10%	1 6%	0 0%
Public affairs professionals are a hindrance to the work of Members of Parliament	Strongly agree	2 14%	0 0%	0 0%	2 17%	1 5%	2 5%
	Slightly agree	1	0	0	1	2	3

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Thinking about public affairs and lobbying, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

		Constituency majority		
		0.1% - 9.9%	10% - 19.9%	20%+
The democratic process will be helped by a statutory Register of those engaged in public affairs	Strongly agree	13 39%	9 22%	9 23%
	Slightly agree	13 40%	12 31%	15 35%
	Neither agree nor disagree	6 18%	12 30%	10 24%
	Slightly disagree	1 3%	3 8%	4 10%
	Strongly disagree	0 0%	3 9%	3 8%
Your personal experience of public affairs would suggest that further regulation of the industry is necessary	Strongly agree	7 21%	7 17%	5 13%
	Slightly agree	13 40%	5 14%	10 24%
	Neither agree nor disagree	7 20%	16 42%	11 26%
	Slightly disagree	6 19%	8 21%	11 26%
	Strongly disagree	0 0%	2 6%	5 11%
Public affairs professionals are a hindrance to the work of Members of Parliament	Strongly agree	3 9%	3 7%	1 3%
	Slightly agree	5	2	0

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Thinking about public affairs and lobbying, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

		Political party					Gender		Age		
		Total	Conservative	Labour	Liberal Democrat	Other	Male	Female	18-44	45-54	55+
Public affairs professionals are a hindrance to the work of Members of Parliament	Slightly agree	6%	6%	8%	0%	0%	6%	7%	8%	5%	5%
	Neither agree nor disagree	36	15	15	3	3	27	10	12	11	13
		32%	28%	32%	33%	67%	30%	37%	32%	31%	32%
	Slightly disagree	46	20	19	6	2	37	9	15	15	17
		40%	36%	42%	56%	33%	41%	35%	37%	43%	39%
	Strongly disagree	19	13	5	1	0	14	5	7	5	7
		17%	23%	11%	11%	0%	16%	19%	17%	14%	18%
Occasions where MPs socialise with public affairs professionals are an important part of an MP's week	Strongly agree	9	7	2	0	0	9	0	2	3	3
		8%	13%	4%	0%	0%	10%	0%	6%	10%	8%
	Slightly agree	32	15	15	1	2	24	9	11	9	12
		28%	28%	33%	11%	33%	27%	33%	28%	29%	29%
	Neither agree nor disagree	40	16	17	5	2	28	11	13	11	15
		35%	30%	38%	44%	33%	32%	42%	33%	35%	36%
	Slightly disagree	21	9	8	3	1	15	6	6	8	7
		19%	17%	17%	33%	17%	18%	22%	15%	24%	17%
	Strongly disagree	12	7	3	1	1	11	1	7	1	5
		11%	13%	8%	11%	17%	13%	3%	18%	3%	11%

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Thinking about public affairs and lobbying, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

		Country				Region				
		England	Scotland	Wales	Northern Ireland	Midlands	South East	South West	Greater London	North West
Public affairs professionals are a hindrance to the work of Members of Parliament	Slightly agree	6%	0%	10%	0%	5%	8%	0%	8%	7%
	Neither agree nor disagree	28	4	2	2	7	6	5	3	2
		29%	45%	24%	75%	32%	39%	31%	26%	15%
	Slightly disagree	37	5	3	1	11	6	7	3	4
Strongly disagree	40%	55%	31%	25%	45%	38%	45%	29%	32%	
	17	0	2	0	2	2	3	3	2	
		18%	0%	24%	0%	10%	15%	24%	29%	18%
Occasions where MPs socialise with public affairs professionals are an important part of an MP's week	Strongly agree	8	0	1	0	3	0	1	1	1
	Slightly agree	8%	0%	10%	0%	15%	0%	8%	11%	10%
		24	4	4	1	4	5	7	1	3
	Neither agree nor disagree	25%	50%	45%	25%	18%	31%	45%	8%	25%
		35	2	1	2	9	8	3	4	2
Slightly disagree	38%	20%	10%	50%	38%	54%	23%	34%	15%	
	17	1	2	1	5	0	2	4	3	
Strongly disagree	19%	10%	24%	25%	20%	0%	16%	39%	22%	
	10	2	1	0	2	2	1	1	3	
		10%	20%	10%	0%	10%	15%	8%	8%	28%

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Thinking about public affairs and lobbying, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

		Region				
		North East	Yorkshire and the Humber	Scotland	Wales	Northern Ireland
Public affairs professionals are a hindrance to the work of Members of Parliament	Slightly agree	22%	0%	0%	10%	0%
	Neither agree nor disagree	3	2	4	2	2
		38%	19%	45%	24%	75%
	Slightly disagree	3	5	5	3	1
Strongly disagree	28%	53%	55%	31%	25%	
	1	3	0	2	0	
		12%	28%	0%	24%	0%
Occasions where MPs socialise with public affairs professionals are an important part of an MP's week	Strongly agree	1	0	0	1	0
	Slightly agree	9%	0%	0%	10%	0%
		1	3	4	4	1
	Neither agree nor disagree	9%	37%	50%	45%	25%
		5	5	2	1	2
Slightly disagree	50%	53%	20%	10%	50%	
	3	1	1	2	1	
Strongly disagree	31%	9%	10%	24%	25%	
	0	0	2	1	0	
		0%	0%	20%	10%	0%

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Thinking about public affairs and lobbying, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

		First year elected					
		Before 1992	1992 - 1996	1997 - 2000	2001 - 2004	2005 - 2009	2010 or later
Public affairs professionals are a hindrance to the work of Members of Parliament	Slightly agree	7%	0%	0%	10%	9%	7%
	Neither agree nor disagree	5	1	4	4	5	17
		41%	10%	24%	34%	29%	37%
	Slightly disagree	1	6	8	4	8	18
Strongly disagree	10%	70%	47%	31%	45%	40%	
	3	2	5	1	2	5	
		29%	20%	29%	7%	12%	12%
	Strongly agree	1	2	1	1	0	3
Occasions where MPs socialise with public affairs professionals are an important part of an MP's week		7%	23%	7%	10%	0%	7%
	Slightly agree	2	3	7	4	2	15
		19%	33%	37%	31%	11%	32%
	Neither agree nor disagree	4	3	6	2	8	18
		33%	30%	32%	15%	45%	38%
Slightly disagree	3	1	3	2	6	6	
	26%	13%	18%	20%	32%	12%	
Strongly disagree	2	0	1	3	2	5	
	14%	0%	7%	24%	11%	10%	

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Thinking about public affairs and lobbying, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

		Constituency majority		
		0.1% - 9.9%	10% - 19.9%	20%+
Public affairs professionals are a hindrance to the work of Members of Parliament	Slightly agree	14%	5%	0%
	Neither agree nor disagree	9	11	17
		25%	28%	40%
	Slightly disagree	11	16	19
Strongly disagree	32%	42%	44%	
	6	7	5	
	19%	18%	13%	
	Occasions where MPs socialise with public affairs professionals are an important part of an MP's week	Strongly agree	4	2
Slightly agree		13%	5%	6%
	9	14	9	
Neither agree nor disagree	26%	37%	23%	
	9	13	17	
Slightly disagree	27%	33%	42%	
	8	5	9	
Strongly disagree	23%	12%	22%	
	4	5	3	
	12%	13%	8%	