Finding UK Parliamentary Papers

The Library has an extensive collection of UK Parliamentary papers produced by both the House of Commons and the House of Lords. UK Parliamentary Papers include:

- Command papers
- House of Commons papers
- House of Commons bills
- House of Lords papers and bills

Citations

**Command Papers** include reports of royal commissions, statements of government policy, discussion documents and treaties. Command Papers are numbered from 1-9999 in various series identified by abbreviations:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Period covered</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1833-1869</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C.</td>
<td>1870-1899</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cd.</td>
<td>1900-1918</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cmd.</td>
<td>1919-1956</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cmdnd.</td>
<td>1956-1986/7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cm.</td>
<td>1986/7 to date</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Each abbreviation/number combination is unique. It is important to use the correct abbreviation and helpful to quote the session: eg Cm 5878, Session 2002-03

**House of Commons papers** include reports of select committees, standing committees and bodies set up by statute. Each paper issued during a Parliamentary session is given a running number, a new sequence of numbers starting with each session: e.g HC 813-I, Session 2002-03

**House of Commons Bills** will often appear as a different document at each of its Commons readings. Every bill is given a running number through the session, a new sequence of numbers starting with each session eg HC Bill 53, Session 2002-03

**House of Lords bills and papers** are distinguished from Commons bills and papers by the abbreviation H.L. Lords papers and bills can be referred to by their title, session and number e.g. HL Paper 134, Session 2002-03 and HL Bill 78, Session 2002-03

**Locating UK Parliamentary Papers in the University Library**
The papers of the United Kingdom Parliament at Westminster, both the House of Commons and the House of Lords, are situated on Level 7 of the University Library in the Maps, Official Publications and Statistics Unit. The publications in this collection are not listed in the Library catalogue, but can be traced in their own catalogues and indexes which are shelved at Govt Bibliog D31:10 ANN. It can be difficult to locate this type of material – staff at the Enquiries Desk on Level 7 are always happy to help.
Parliamentary Papers online

- All UK Parliamentary material from 2006/07, and all Scottish Parliament and Government from 2008 onwards from the Public Information Online (PIO) database (staff/students only)
- A full listing of Command Papers and House of Commons Papers (HCPs) from 17 May 2005 to the present from http://www.official-documents.gov.uk/
- Recent Bills are available on the web from http://services.parliament.uk/bills

Kirsteen Valenti
Official Publications and Statistics Librarian
Rm 713 Level 7
Glasgow University Library

Tel: (0141) 330 6735.
E-mail: Kirsteen.Valenti@glasgow.ac.uk
Updated July 2013 Elaine Anderson